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**PRODUCTION OF LYSOSOMAL ENZYMES IN  
PLANT-BASED EXPRESSION SYSTEMS**

This application is a continuation-in-part of provisional application serial number 60/003,737, filed September 14, 1995, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein in its entirety.

This invention was made with United States government support under grant nos. NS32369 and DK48570 awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in the invention.

**1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to the production of human and animal lysosomal enzymes in plants comprising expressing the genetic coding sequence of a human or animal lysosomal enzyme in a plant expression system. The plant expression system provides for post-translational modification and processing to produce recombinant protein having enzymatic activity.

The invention is demonstrated herein by working examples in which transgenic tobacco plants produce a modified human glucocerebrosidase (hGC) and a human  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase (IDUA), both of which are enzymatically active.

The recombinant lysosomal enzymes produced in accordance with the invention may be used for a variety of purposes including but not limited to enzyme replacement therapy for the therapeutic treatment of lysosomal storage diseases, research for development of new approaches to medical treatment of lysosomal storage diseases, and industrial processes involving enzymatic substrate hydrolysis.

**2. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**2.1. LYSOSOMAL STORAGE DISEASES**

Lysosomes, which are present in all animal cells, are acidic cytoplasmic organelles that contain an assortment of hydrolytic enzymes. These enzymes function in the degradation of internalized and endogenous macromolecular substrates. When there is a lysosomal enzyme deficiency, the deficient enzyme's undegraded substrates gradually accumulate within the lysosomes causing a progressive increase in the



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size and number of these organelles within the cell. This accumulation within the cell eventually leads to malfunction of the organ and to the gross pathology of a lysosomal storage disease, with the particular disease depending on the particular enzyme deficiency. More than thirty distinct, inherited lysosomal storage diseases have been characterized in humans.

A few examples of lysosomal storage diseases (and their associated deficient enzymes) include Fabry disease ( $\alpha$ -galactosidase), Farber disease (ceramidase), Gaucher disease (glucocerebrosidase),  $G_{m1}$  gangliosidosis ( $\beta$ -galactosidase), Tay-Sachs disease ( $\beta$ -hexosaminidase), Niemann-Pick disease (sphingomyelinase), Schindler disease ( $\alpha$ -N-acetylgalactosaminidase), Hunter syndrome (iduronate-2-sulfatase), Sly syndrome ( $\beta$ -glucuronidase), Hurler and Hurler/Scheie syndromes (iduronidase), and I-Cell/San Filippo syndrome (mannose 6-phosphate transporter).

One proven treatment for lysosomal storage diseases is enzyme replacement therapy in which an active form of the enzyme is administered directly to the patient. However, abundant, inexpensive and safe supplies of therapeutic lysosomal enzymes are not commercially available for the treatment of any of the lysosomal storage diseases.

#### 2.1.1. GAUCHER DISEASE AND TREATMENT

Gaucher disease is the most common lysosomal storage disease in humans, with the highest frequency encountered in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. About 5,000 to 10,000 people in the United States are afflicted with this disease (Grabowski, 1993, Adv. Hum. Genet. 21:377-441). Gaucher disease results from a deficiency in glucocerebrosidase (hGC; glucosylceramidase; acid  $\beta$ -glucosidase; EC 3.2.1.45). This deficiency leads to an accumulation of the enzyme's substrate, glucocerebroside, in reticuloendothelial cells of the bone marrow, spleen and liver, resulting in significant skeletal complications such as bone marrow expansion and bone

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deterioration, and also hypersplenism, hepatomegaly, thrombocytopenia, anemia and lung complications (Grabowski, 1993, *supra*; Lee, 1982, *Prog. Clin. Biol. Res.* 95:177-217; Brady et al., 1965, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.* 18:221-225).

5 hGC replacement therapy has revolutionized the medical care and management of Gaucher disease, leading to significant improvement in the quality of life of many Gaucher patients (Pastores et al., 1993, *Blood* 82:408-416; Fallet et al., 1992, *Pediatr. Res.* 31:496-502). Studies have  
10 shown that regular, intravenous administration of specifically modified hGC (Ceredase<sup>TM</sup>, Genzyme Corp.) can result in dramatic improvements and even reversals in the hepatic, splenic and hematologic manifestations of the disease (Pastores et al., 1993, *supra*; Fallet et al., 1992,  
15 *supra*; Figueroa et al., 1992, *N. Eng. J. Med.* 327:1632-1636; Barton et al., 1991, *N. Eng. J. Med.* 324:1464-1470; Beutler et al., 1991, *Blood* 78:1183-1189). Improvements in associated skeletal and lung complications are possible, but require larger doses of enzyme over longer periods of time.  
20 Despite the benefits of hGC replacement therapy, the source and high cost of the enzyme seriously restricts its availability. Until recently, the only commercial source of purified hGC has been from pooled human placentae, where ten to twenty kilograms (kg) of placentae yield only 1 milligram  
25 (mg) of enzyme. From five hundred to two thousand kilograms of placenta (equivalent to 2,000-8,000 placentae) are required to treat each patient every two weeks. Current costs for HGC replacement therapy range from \$55 to \$220/kg patient body weight every two weeks, or from \$70,000 to  
30 \$300,000/year for a 50 kg patient. Since the need for therapy essentially lasts for the duration of a patient's life, costs for the enzyme alone may exceed \$15,000,000 during 30 to 70 years of therapy.

A second major problem associated with treating Gaucher  
35 patients with glucocerebrosidase isolated from human tissue (and perhaps even from other animal tissues) is the risk of

exposing patients to infectious agents which may be present in the pooled placentae, e.g., human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis viruses, and others.

Accordingly, a new source of hGC is needed to effectively reduce the cost of treatment and to eliminate the risk of exposing Gaucher patients to infectious agents.

### 2.1.2. HURLER SYNDROME AND TREATMENT

Hurler syndrome is the most common of the group of human lysosomal storage disorders known as the mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) involving an inability to degrade dermatan sulfate and heparan sulfate. Hurler patients are deficient in the lysosomal enzyme,  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase (IDUA), and the resulting accumulation of glucosaminoglycans in the lysosomes of affected cells leads to a variety of clinical manifestations (Neufeld & Ashwell, 1980, The Biochemistry of Glycoproteins and Proteoglycans, ed. W.J. Lennarz, Plenum Press, NY; pp. 241-266) including developmental delay, enlargement of the liver and spleen, skeletal abnormalities, mental retardation, coarsened facial features, corneal clouding, and respiratory and cardiovascular involvement. Hurler/Scheie syndrome (MPS I H/S) and Scheie syndrome (MPS IS) represent less severe forms of the disorder but also involve deficiencies in IDUA. Molecular studies on the genes and cDNAs of MPS I patients has led to an emerging understanding of genotype and clinical phenotype (Scott et al., 1990, Am. J. Hum. Genet. 47:802-807). In addition, both a canine and feline form of MPS I have been characterized (Haskins et al., 1979, Pediat. Res. 13:1294-1297; Haskins and Kakkis, 1995, Am. J. Hum. Genet. 57:A39 Abstr. 194; Shull et al., 1994, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 91:12937-12941) providing an effective *in vivo* model for testing therapeutic approaches.

The efficacy of enzyme replacement in the canine model of Hurler syndrome using human IDUA generated in CHO cells was recently reported (Kakkis et al., 1995, Am. J. Hum.

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Genet. 57:A39 (Abstr.); Shull et al., 1994, *supra*). Weekly doses of approximately 1 mg administered over a period of 3 months resulted in normal levels of the enzyme in liver and spleen, lower but significant levels in kidney and lungs and very low levels in brain, heart, cartilage and cornea (Shull et al., 1994, *supra*. Tissue examinations showed normalization of lysosomal storage in the liver, spleen and kidney, but no improvement in heart, brain and corneal tissues. One dog was maintained on treatment for 13 months and was clearly more active with improvement in skeletal deformities, joint stiffness, corneal clouding and weight gain (Kakkis et al., 1995, *supra*. A single higher-dose experiment was quite promising and showed detectable IDUA activity in the brain and cartilage in addition to tissues which previously showed activity at the lower doses. Additional higher-dose experiments and trials involving longer administration are currently limited by availability of recombinant enzyme. These experiments underscore the potential of replacement therapy for Hurler patients and the severe constraints on both canine and human trials due to limitations in recombinant enzyme production using current technologies.

## 2.2. BIOSYNTHESIS OF LYSOSOMAL ENZYMES

Soluble lysosomal enzymes share initial steps of biosynthesis with secretory proteins, i.e., synthesis on the ribosome, binding of the N-terminal signal peptide to the surface of the rough endoplasmic reticulum (ER), transport into the lumen of the ER where the signal peptide is cleaved, and addition of oligosaccharides to specific asparagine residues (N-linked), followed by further modifications of the nascent protein in the Golgi apparatus (von Figura and Hasilik, 1986, *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 55:167-193). The N-linked oligosaccharides can be complex, diverse and heterogeneous, and may contain high-mannose residues. The proteins undergo further processing in a post-ER, pre-Golgi compartment and in

the *cis*-Golgi to form either an N-linked mannose 6-phosphate (M-6-P) oligosaccharide-dependent or N-linked M-6-P oligosaccharide-independent recognition signal for lysosomal localized enzymes (Kornfeld & Mellman, 1989, *Ann. Rev. Cell Biol.*, 5:483-525; Kaplan et al., 1977, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 74:2026). The presence of the M-6-P recognition signal results in the binding of the enzyme to M-6-P receptors (MPR). These bound enzymes remain in the cell, are eventually packaged into lysosomes, and are thus segregated from proteins targeted for secretion or to the plasma membrane.

Although many lysosomal enzymes are soluble and are transported to lysosomes by MPRs, integral membrane and membrane-associated proteins (notably hGC) are targeted and transported to lysosomes independent of the M-6-P/MPR system (Kornfeld & Mellman, 1989, Erickson et al., 1985). hGC does not become soluble after translation, but instead becomes associated with the lysosomal membrane by means which have not been elucidated (von Figura & Hasilik, 1986, *Annu. Rev. Biochem.* 55:167-193; Kornfeld and Mellman, 1989, *Annu. Rev. Cell Biol.* 5:483-525).

hGC is synthesized as a single polypeptide (58 kDa) with a signal sequence (2 kDa) at the amino terminus. The signal sequence is co-translationally cleaved and the enzyme is glycosylated with a heterogeneous group of both complex and high-mannose oligosaccharides to form a precursor. The glycans are predominately involved in protein conformation. The "high mannose" precursor, which has a molecular weight of 63 Kda, is post-translationally processed in the Golgi to a 66 Kda intermediate, which is then further modified in the lysosome to the mature enzyme having a molecular weight of 59 Kda (Jonsson et al., 1987, *Eur. J. Biochem.* 164:171; Erickson et al., 1985, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 260:14319).

The mature hGC polypeptide is composed of 497 amino acids and contains five N-glycosylation amino acid consensus sequences (Asn-X-Ser/Thr). Four of these sites are normally

glycosylated. Glycosylation of the first site is essential for the production of active protein. Both high-mannose and complex oligosaccharide chains have been identified (Berg-Fussman et al., 1993, J. Biol. Chem. 268:14861-14866).

5 hGC from placenta contains 7% carbohydrate, 20% of which is of the high-mannose type (Grace & Grabowski, 1990, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm. 168:771-777). Treatment of placental hGC with neuraminidase (yielding an asialo enzyme) results in increased clearance and uptake rates by rat liver cells with

10 a concomitant increase in hepatic enzymatic activity (Furbish et al., 1981, Biochim. Biophys. Acta 673:425-434). This glycan-modified placental hGC is currently used as a therapeutic agent in the treatment of Gaucher's disease. Biochemical and site-directed mutagenesis studies have

15 provided an initial map of regions and residues important to folding, activator interaction, and active site location (Grace et al., 1994, J. Biol. Chem. 269:2283-2291).

The complete complementary DNA (cDNA) sequence for hGC has been published (Tsuji et al., 1986, J. Biol. Chem. 261:50-53; Sorge et al., 1985, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 82:7289-7293), and *E. coli* containing the hGC cDNA sequence cloned from fibroblast cells, as described (Sorge et al., 1985, *supra*), is available from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) (Accession No. 65696).

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25 Recombinant methodologies have the potential to provide a safer and less expensive source of lysosomal enzymes for replacement therapy. However, production of active enzymes, e.g., hGC, in a heterologous system requires correct targeting to the ER, and appropriate N-linked glycosylation

30 at levels or efficiencies that avoid ER-based degradation or aggregation. Since mature lysosomal enzymes must be glycosylated to be active, bacterial systems cannot be used. For example, hGC expressed in *E. coli* is enzymatically inactive (Grace & Grabowski, 1990, *supra*).

35 Active monomers of hGC have been purified from insect cells (*Sf9* cells) and Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells

infected or transfected, respectively, with hGC cDNA (Grace & Grabowski, 1990, *supra*; Grabowski et al., 1989, *Enzyme* 41:131-142). A method for producing recombinant hGC in CHO cell cultures and in insect cell cultures was recently  
5 disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,236,838. Recombinant hGC produced in these heterologous systems had an apparent molecular weight ranging from 64 to 73 kDa and contained from 5 to 15% carbohydrate (Grace & Grabowski, 1990, *supra*; Grace et al., 1990, *J. Biol. Chem.* 265:6827-6835). These  
10 recombinant hGCs had kinetic properties identical to the natural enzyme isolated from human placentae, as based on analyses using a series of substrate and transition state analogues, negatively-charged lipid activators, protein activators (saposin C), and mechanism-based covalent  
15 inhibitors (Grace et al., 1994, *supra*; Berg-Fussman et al., 1993, *supra*; Grace et al., 1990, *J. Biol. Chem.* 265:6827-6835; Grabowski et al., 1989, *supra*). However, both insect cells and CHO cells retained most of the enzyme rather than secreting it into the medium, significantly increasing  
20 the difficulty and cost of harvesting the pure enzyme (Grabowski et al., 1989, *supra*).

Accordingly, a recombinant system is needed that can produce human or animal lysosomal enzymes in an active form at lower cost, and that will be appropriately targeted for  
25 ease of recovery.

### 2.3. MAMMALIAN LYSOSOMES VERSUS PLANT VACUOLES

Because plants are eukaryotes, plant expression systems have advantages over prokaryotic expression systems,  
30 particularly with respect to correct processing of eukaryotic gene products. However, unlike animal cells, plant cells do not possess lysosomes. Although the plant vacuole appears functionally analogous to the lysosome, plants do not contain MPRs (Chrispeels, 1991, *Ann. Rev. Pl. Phys. Pl. Mol. Biol.*  
35 42:21-53; Chrispeels and Tague, 1991, *Intl. Rev. Cytol.* 125:1-45), and the mechanisms of vacuolar targeting can

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differ significantly from those of lysosomal targeting. For example, the predominant mechanism of vacuolar targeting in plants does not appear to be glycan-dependent, but appears to be based instead on C- or N-terminal peptide sequences (Gomez & Chrispeels, 1993, Plant Cell 5:1113-1124; Chrispeels & Raikhal, 1992, Cell 68:613-618; Holwerda et al., 1992, Plant Cell 4:307-318; Neuhaus et al., 1991, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:10362-10366; Chrispeels, 1991, *supra*; Chrispeels & Tague, 1991, *supra*; Holwerda et al., 1990, Plant Cell 2:1091-1106; Voelker et al., 1989, Plant Cell 1:95-104). As a result, plants have not been viewed as appropriate expression systems for lysosomal enzymes which must be appropriately processed to produce an active product.

### 15 3. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the production of human or animal lysosomal enzymes in transformed or transfected plants, plant cells or plant tissues, and involves constructing and expressing recombinant expression constructs comprising lysosomal enzyme coding sequences in a plant expression system. The plant expression system provides appropriate co-translational and post-translational modifications of the nascent peptide required for processing, e.g., signal sequence cleavage, glycosylation, and sorting of the expression product so that an enzymatically active protein is produced. Using the methods described herein, recombinant lysosomal enzymes are produced in plant expression systems from which the recombinant lysosomal enzymes can be isolated and used for a variety of purposes. The present invention is exemplified by the genetic-engineering of transgenic tobacco plants with three lysosomal enzyme expression constructs. One construct comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a modified human glucocerebrosidase (hGC), specifically a hGC fused at its C-terminal to the eight amino acid FLAG<sup>™</sup> peptide (hGC:FLAG<sup>™</sup>). Another construct comprises nucleotide sequence encoding a

human  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase (IDUA). The third construct comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a human glucocerebrosidase (hGC). Transgenic tobacco plants having the expression constructs produce lysosomal enzymes that are enzymatically  
5 active.

The plant expression systems and the recombinant lysosomal enzymes produced therewith have a variety of uses, including but not limited to: (1) the production of enzymatically active lysosomal enzymes for the treatment of  
10 lysosomal storage diseases; (2) the production of altered or mutated proteins, enzymatically active or otherwise, to serve as precursors or substrates for further *in vivo* or *in vitro* processing to a specialized industrial form for research or therapeutic uses, such as to produce a more effective  
15 therapeutic enzyme; (3) the production of antibodies against lysosomal enzymes for medical diagnostic use; and (4) use in any commercial process that involves substrate hydrolysis.

#### 4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

20 FIG. 1. hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> cDNA plant expression construct and transformation vector. The MeGA:hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> construct in a pBS intermediate vector is excised and inserted into the SstI site of the binary plant transformation vector pBIB-KAN to form plasmid CTProl:hGC:FLAG. R and L represent T-DNA right  
25 and left borders, respectively, which precisely delineate the DNA inserted into the plant genome. NPTII = kanamycin  
selectable marker, FL = FLAG<sup>TM</sup> epitope, pAnos =  
polyadenylation/terminator signal, Phos = promoter sequence from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* nopaline synthetase gene.  
30 PCR-amplification primers for hGC were: GC1  
(5'TTGtctAGaGTAAGCATCATGGCTGGC3') (SEQ ID NO:1); and GC4  
(5'cacgaattCTGGCGACGCCACAGGTAGGTGTGA3') (SEQ ID NO:2);  
hGC-derived sequences are in upper case; restriction sites are underlined. Restriction enzymes: E, EcoRI; S, SstI; N,  
35 NotI; X, XbaI.

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FIGS. 2A-E. Transformation and generation of tobacco plants carrying the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ construct. FIG. 2A. *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of tobacco leaf discs. Leaf discs were inoculated with a cell suspension of 5 *A. tumefaciens* strains carrying the plasmid CTProl:hGC:FLAG. FIG. 2B. Development of shoots on selection media 22 days post-inoculation. FIG. 2C. Development of roots on rooting media 27 days post-inoculation. Use of rooting media containing kanamycin clearly differentiated between 10 transgenic shoots which formed roots and "false positive" shoots which did not form roots on selective media. FIG. 2D. Transformed plants three weeks after transfer to soil. FIG. 2E. Transformed plant 10 weeks after transfer to soil.

FIG. 3. Genomic Southern hybridization analysis of 15 control and transgenic plants. Total genomic DNA was isolated from an untransformed control plant (UT) and independent transformants generated from *Nicotiana tabacum* cv. *Xanthi* (X-1, X-8, X-9, X-11) and cv. VA116 (V1). Five to 10 µg of total genomic DNA were digested with HindIII and 20 resolved on a TBE agarose gel. The DNA was blotted to nitrocellulose membrane and probed with a <sup>32</sup>P-labeled hGC:FLAG™ sequence from a gel-purified 1.7 kb HindIII fragment isolated from the pBS intermediate vector containing the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ expression construct (see FIG. 1).

25 FIG. 4. Induction of hGC:FLAG™ mRNA levels in transgenic plants. Total RNA was isolated by standard guanidino-thiocyanate methods from UT and X-11 leaf tissue at 0 and 24 hr post-mechanical gene activation (MGA). Five µg of total RNA was glyoxylated, size-separated on a 1.2% 30 agarose gel, transferred to NitroPure (MSI) filters and probed with a <sup>32</sup>P-labeled hGC:FLAG™ gene sequence from a gel-purified 1.7 kb HindIII fragment isolated from the pBS intermediate vector shown in FIG. 1.

FIGS. 5A-B. Induction of hGC:FLAG™ fusion protein in 35 transgenic tobacco plants as detected by Western analysis using anti-FLAG™ antibodies and anti-hGC antibodies. Leaf

tissue from X-11 was induced by MGA at time 0 at room temperature, harvested at 2, 4, 8, 16, and 24 hrs, and frozen at -20°C prior to extraction. hGC:FLAG™ was solubilized by grinding the tissue in a coffee bean grinder with dry ice and homogenized in 1% Triton X-100, 1% taurocholate, 25 mM sodium citrate pH 7.0, 4 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, and 5 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), followed by two cycles of freezing and thawing of the homogenate. Both protein concentration and enzyme activity of cell free extracts were determined. FIG. 5A. Ten  $\mu$ g of total soluble protein were analyzed by Western immunoblot using anti-FLAG™ antibodies. Lane 1, 24 ng of FLAG™-tagged control protein; lane 2, X-11 at time 0; lane 3, X-11 at 2 hr; lane 4, X-11 at 4 hrs; lane 5, X-11 at 8 hrs; lane 6, X-11 at 12 hrs; lane 7, X-11 at 24 hrs; lane 8, UT (control plant) at 12 hrs. FIG. 5B. Forty  $\mu$ g of total soluble protein were analyzed by Western immunoblot using anti-hGC antibodies. Lane 1, UT at time 0; lane 2, X-11 at time 0; lane 3, X-11 at 2 hrs; lane 4, X-11 at 4 hrs; lane 5, X-11 at 8 hrs; lane 6, X-11 at 12 hrs; lane 7, X-11 at 24 hrs; lane 8, UT at 8 hrs. The maximum level of hGC:FLAG™ expression was found between 8-12 hrs post-MGA.

FIG. 6. Total  $\beta$ -glucosidase (endogenous plant  $\beta$ -glucosidase and hGC) activity post-MGA of X-11 leaf tissue. One-tenth  $\mu$ g of cell free extract was assayed for ability to convert the fluorometric substrate, 4-methylumbelliferyl -D-glucopyranoside (4MuGlc) to 4MU at 37°C, as measured in a fluorometer (Hoefer DyNA Quant-200, Hoefer, Pharmacia, Biotech. Inc.) with excitation at 365 nm and emission at 460 nm. FU = fluorometer units; Time = hrs post-induction (i.e., wounding of tissue or MGA).

FIGS. 7A-B. Affinity purification of hGC:FLAG™ fusion protein. FIG. 7A. Commassie blue stained SDS-PAGE gel and Western analysis of FLAG™ affinity-purified hGC:FLAG™. Lane 1, Coomassie blue stained SDS-PAGE gel of 0.1  $\mu$ g FLAG™ affinity-purified hGC:FLAG™; Lane 2, Western analysis using

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anti-hGC antibodies on 0.1  $\mu$ g FLAG<sup>TM</sup> affinity-purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>. FIG. 7B. Commassie blue stained SDS-PAGE gel and Western analysis of ConA-affinity-purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>. Lane 1, Coomassie blue stained SDS-PAGE gel of 10  $\mu$ g of ConA purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>; Lane 2, Western analysis of ConA purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> using anti-FLAG<sup>TM</sup> antibodies. These results indicate that the ConA-purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> protein is glycosylated.

FIG. 8. Immuno-slot blot Western analysis using anti-FLAG<sup>TM</sup> antibodies on fractions from hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> purification steps using plant tissue 12 hrs post-MGA. Lane A, FLAG<sup>TM</sup>-tagged control protein: slot 1, 1 ng; slot 2, 6 ng; slot 3, 8 ng; slot 4, 18 ng; slot 5, 60 ng. Lane B, Fractions from isolation of hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>: slot 1, 0.5  $\mu$ l/80,000  $\mu$ l soluble protein from crude cell free extract; slot 2, 0.5  $\mu$ l/80,000  $\mu$ l soluble protein from 33% ammonium sulfate (AS) supernatant; slot 3, 2.5  $\mu$ l/5,000  $\mu$ l soluble protein from ConA affinity-purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>. Lane C: slot 1, 1  $\mu$ l soluble protein from crude plant tissue extract; slot 2, 1  $\mu$ l soluble protein from 33% AS supernatant; slot 3, 5  $\mu$ l soluble protein from ConA affinity-purified hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>.

FIG. 9. Nucleotide sequence of hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> construct (SEQ ID NO:3) which was cloned and expressed in tobacco strains X-11 and X-27. The upper case underlined letters at three positions represent changes to the sequence in GENBANK (ATCC bank cDNA sequence). The lower case letters represent additions to the hGC sequence, e.g., the FLAG<sup>TM</sup> epitope.

FIG. 10. Deduced amino acid sequence of hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> fusion protein (SEQ ID NO:4). The upper case underlined letters at two positions represent changes to the original hGC amino acid sequence disclosed by E. Neufeld. Lower case letters represent additions to the hGC amino acid sequence. For example, dykdddk<sub>N</sub> = the FLAG<sup>TM</sup> epitope.

FIG. 11. Sequence of 456 bases comprising the MeGA promoter.

FIG. 12. IDUA expression vector construction strategy. MeGA:IDUA and 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA constructs were inserted into the HindIII/SacI site of the binary vector pBIB-KAN. R and L represent T-DNA right and left borders which precisely demarcate the DNA inserted into the plant genome, NPTII is the kanamycin selectable marker, pAnos is the polyadenylation/terminator signal and Pnos a promoter from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* nopaline synthetase gene. PCR-primers for IDUA were: ID1, (5'-CTAGtctagaATGCGTCCCCTGCGCCCCCGCG) (SEQ ID NO:6) and ID2, (5'GgaattcgagctcTCATGGATTGCCCGGGGATG) (SEQ ID NO:7); IDUA sequences are capitalized, introduced restriction sites are underlined. SP, signal peptide; IDUA, human IDUA coding region; H, HindIII; S, SacI; X, XbaI.

FIGS. 13A-C. Transgenic tobacco expressing the MeGA:IDUA construct. Fig. 13A. Germination of first generation seeds on selective medium showing segregation of kanamycin resistant and sensitive seedlings. Fig. 13B. Young plants containing the MeGA:IDUA construct (right) and untransformed parent plants grown in parallel. Fig. 13C. Fully mature IDUA-expressing plants in the greenhouse.

FIGS. 14A-B. Induction of IDUA transgene in tobacco leaf tissues. Leaf tissue from transgenic plant IDUA-9 was induced by excision into 1.5 mm strips and incubated at room temperature on moist paper towels in sealed plastic bag. Tissue was removed for analysis (stored at -80°C for RNA, -20°C for protein) at 0, 2, 4, 8, 11, and 27 hrs post-induction. FIG. 14A. Northern blot analysis of IDUA mRNA from transgenic tobacco plants. Fifteen µg of total RNA was run on glyoxal agarose gel, blotted onto nitrocellulose membrane, and hybridized with <sup>32</sup>P-labeled IDUA cDNA. FIG. 14B. Western blot analysis of total soluble proteins (20 µg) from tobacco leaf extracts using antibodies to denatured IDUA synthesized in CHO cells. Control lane represents IDUA synthesized in CHO cells (98 kDa under our gel conditions).

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IDUA synthesized from transgenic tobacco has a molecular size of 92 kDa.

FIG. 15. Immunodetection of IDUA secreted by transgenic plants into the incubation buffer. Fifty  $\mu$ l of incubation buffer was boiled and slotted onto OPTITRAN membrane along with control IDUA synthesized in CHO cells. Antibodies to denatured IDUA synthesized in CHO cells were used to detect IDUA.

FIG. 16. IDUA activity in tissue extracts and incubation buffer from transgenic IDUA-9 plant tissue. Panel A: IDUA-9 plant tissue was induced and incubated in buffer, which was collected and replaced at various times after induction as described in the text. Open boxes represent IDUA activity in extracts prepared from induced tissue after incubation in buffer. Shaded boxes represent the IDUA activity in the incubation buffer. Panel B: IDUA-9 plant tissue was induced and incubated without buffer for 34 hours after which an extract was prepared from the induced tissue. The IDUA activity of the extract is shown.

FIG. 17. Comparison of IDUA activity in transgenic tobacco plants IDUA-7, IDUA-8 and IDUA-9: Panel A: Plant tissue was induced and incubated in buffer, which was collected and replaced at various times after induction as described in the text. IDUA activity present in the incubation buffer collected at various times post-induction was plotted. Panel B: Plant tissue was induced and incubated without buffer absence of incubation buffer for 34 hours, after which extracts were prepared from the induced tissues. The IDUA activities of the extracts are shown.

FIG. 18. Western slot blot analysis of secreted IDUA from transgenic plant IDUA-9 after three sequential addition and collection of incubation buffer; 24, 26 and 34 hrs post-MGA. The tissue (1.5 gm) was induced and incubated in a moist plastic bag for 24 hrs. Ten ml of incubation buffer was used to wash the tissue; this fraction is denoted as 24 hrs. Fresh buffer (10 ml) was added and incubated at room

temperature for 2 hrs; this fraction was denoted as 26 hrs. Fresh buffer (10 ml) was added to the tissue and incubated for 8 hrs and this fraction was denoted as 34 hrs. Fifty  $\mu$ L of incubation buffer from each fraction was boiled and  
5 slotted onto OPTITRAN membrane and analyzed with anti-IDUA antibodies.

FIG. 19. The nucleotide sequence of the IDUA coding sequence<sup>(SEQ ID NO: 8)</sup> used in the MeGA:IDUA and 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA expression construct.

10 FIG. 20. The deduced amino acid sequence<sup>(SEQ ID NO: 9)</sup> of the IDUA coding sequence shown in FIG. 19.

FIG. 21. hGC cDNA plant expression construct and transformation vector. The MeGA:hGC expression construct in a pBS intermediate plasmid is excised and inserted into the  
15 SstI site of the binary plant transformation vector pBIB-KAN to form transformation vector pCT50. The PCR-amplification primers for reconstruction of the 3' end of the hGC coding region were: GC23, which has the sequence  
5'GCCTATGCTGAGCACAAAGTTACAG3' (SEQ ID NO:11); and GC37, whose  
20 complementary strand has the sequence  
5'TTCCTTGAGCTCGTCACTGGCGACGCCACAGGTA3' (SEQ ID NO:12). The other abbreviations and notations shown are same as those described for FIG. 1.

## 25 5. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the production of recombinant human or animal lysosomal enzymes in plants and in cultured plant cells and plant tissues, involving: (1) construction of recombinant expression constructs comprising  
30 lysosomal enzyme coding sequences and transformation vectors containing the expression constructs; (2) transforming or transfecting plant cells, plant tissues or plants with the transformation vectors; (3) expressing the lysosomal enzyme coding sequences in the plant cell, plant tissue or plant;  
35 and (4) detecting and purifying expression products having lysosomal enzyme activity.

The plant expression systems and the recombinant lysosomal enzymes produced therewith have a variety of uses, including but not limited to: (1) the production of enzymatically active enzymes for the treatment of lysosomal storage diseases; (2) the production of antibodies against lysosomal enzymes, which antibodies would have medical diagnostic uses; (3) use in any commercial process that involves substrate hydrolysis; and (4) the production of modified proteins or peptide fragments to serve as precursors or substrates for further *in vivo* or *in vitro* processing to a specialized industrial form for research or therapeutic uses, such as to produce a therapeutic enzyme with increased efficacy or altered substrate specificity. These plant-expressed recombinant lysosomal protein products need not be enzymatically active or identical in structure to the corresponding native animal or human lysosomal enzymes or proteins in order to be useful for research or industrial applications.

The terms "lysosomal enzyme" and "lysosomal enzyme gene product," as used herein with respect to any such enzyme and product produced in a plant expression system, refer to a recombinant peptide expressed in a transgenic plant or plant cell from a nucleotide sequence encoding a human or animal lysosomal enzyme, a modified human or animal lysosomal enzyme, or a fragment, derivative or modification of such enzyme. Useful modified human or animal lysosomal enzymes include but are not limited to human or animal lysosomal enzymes having one or several naturally-occurring or artificially-introduced amino acid additions, deletions and/or substitutions.

The term "lysosomal enzyme coding sequence," as used herein, refers to a DNA or RNA sequence that encodes a protein or peptide, or a fragment, derivative or other modification thereof, which exhibits detectable enzymatic activity against a lysosomal enzyme substrate.

The term "enzymatically active" is used herein with respect to any recombinant lysosomal enzyme produced in a plant expression system to mean that the recombinant lysosomal enzyme is able to hydrolyze either the natural  
5 substrate, or an analogue or synthetic substrate thereof of the corresponding human or animal lysosomal enzyme, at detectable levels.

The term "enzymatically active" is also used herein with respect to recombinant hGC and modified hGC produced in a  
10 plant expression system to mean that such hGCs are able to hydrolyze the native hGC substrate, *i.e.*, N-acyl-shingosyl-1-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside, of the hGC or that it can cleave the synthetic  $\beta$ -glucoside, 4-methyl-umbelliferyl- $\beta$ -D-glucoside (4MuGlc), at detectable  
15 levels. Similarly, the term as applied to plant-produced IDUA and modified IDUA means that such IDUAs are able to hydrolyze the native IDUA substrate, *i.e.*, dermatan sulfate or heparan sulfate, or is able to cleave the synthetic  $\alpha$ -glucoside, 4-methylumbelliferyl- $\alpha$ -L-iduronide (4-MUI), at  
20 detectable levels.

The term "transformant" as used herein refers to a plant, plant cell or plant tissue to which a gene construct comprising a lysosomal enzyme coding sequence has been introduced by a method other than transfection with an  
25 engineered virus.

The term "transfectant" refers to a plant, plant cell or plant tissue that has been infected with an engineered virus and stably maintains said virus in the infected cell.

Once a plant transformant or transfectant is identified  
30 that expresses a recombinant lysosomal enzyme, one non-limiting embodiment of the invention involves the clonal expansion and use of that transformant or transfectant in the production and purification of enzymatically active recombinant lysosomal enzyme. In another non-limiting  
35 embodiment of the invention, each new generation of progeny plants may be newly screened for the presence of nucleotide

sequence coding for a lysosomal enzyme, wherein such screening results in production by subsequent generations of plants of recoverable amounts of active recombinant lysosomal enzyme, and wherefrom the enzyme is then purified.

- 5       The invention is divided into the following sections solely for the purpose of description: (a) genes or coding sequences for lysosomal enzymes involved in lysosomal storage diseases; (b) construction of recombinant expression constructs for expressing lysosomal enzyme coding sequences  
10 in plant cell; (c) construction of plant transformation vectors comprising the expression constructs; (d) transformation/transfection of plants capable of translating and processing primary translation products in order to express an enzymatically active recombinant lysosomal enzyme;  
15 (e) identification and purification of the recombinant lysosomal enzyme so produced; (f) expansion of the number of transformed or transfected plants; and (g) methods of therapeutically using the recombinant lysosomal enzyme.

20       **5.1. GENES OR CODING SEQUENCES FOR ENZYMES  
          INVOLVED IN LYSOSOMAL STORAGE DISEASES**

- The recombinant lysosomal enzymes produced in accordance with this invention will have a variety of uses, probably the most significant being their use in enzyme replacement  
25 therapy for lysosomal storage diseases. These lysosomal enzymes include but are not limited to:  
 $\alpha$ -N-acetylgalactosaminidase (Warner et al., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun., 1990, 173:13-19; acid lipase; aryl sulfatase A; aspartylglycosaminidase; ceramidase;  $\alpha$ -L-fucosidase (de Wet  
30 et al., 1984, DNA 3:437-447),  $\alpha$ -galactosidase,  $\beta$ -galactosidase, galactosylceramidase, glucocerebrosidase,  $\alpha$ -glucosidase,  $\beta$ -glucuronidase, heparin N-sulfatase,  $\beta$ -hexosaminidase, iduronate sulfatase,  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase,  $\alpha$ -mannosidase,  $\beta$ -mannosidase, sialidase, and sphingo-  
35 myelinase. Of these enzymes, cDNAs have been cloned for  $\alpha$ -N-acetylgalactosaminidase (Zhu & Goldstein, 1993, Gene 137:309-314); acid lipase (Ames et al., 1994, Eur. J.

Biochem 219:905-914);  $\alpha$ -galactosidase (Eng & Desnick, 1994, Hum Mutat. 3:103-111); human glucocerebrosidase (hGC) (Sorge et al., 1985, *supra*);  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase (Scott et al., 1991, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88:9695-9699); iduronate sulfatase  
5 (Daniele et al., 1993, Genomics 16:755-757);  $\alpha$ -mannosidase (Schatzle et al., 1992, J. Biol. Chem 267:4000-4007); and sialidase (Ferrari et al., 1994, Glycobiology 4:2047-2052).

The nucleic acid sequences encoding lysosomal enzymes which can be used in accordance with the invention include  
10 but are not limited to any nucleic acid sequence that encodes a lysosomal enzyme, modified lysosomal enzyme, or functional equivalent thereof, including but not limited to: (a) any nucleotide sequence that selectively hybridizes to the complement of a human or animal lysosomal enzyme coding  
15 sequence under stringent conditions, e.g., washing in 0.1xSSC/0.1 % SDS at 68°C (Ausubel et al., eds., 1989, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Vol. I, Greene Publishing Associates, Inc. and John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, at page 2.10.3), and encodes a product homologous to  
20 the human or animal lysosomal enzyme; and/or (b) any nucleotide sequence that hybridizes to the complement of the human or animal lysosomal enzyme coding sequence under less stringent conditions, such as moderately stringent conditions, e.g., washing in 0.2xSSC/0.1 % SDS at 42°C  
25 (Ausubel et al., 1989, *supra*), yet which still encodes a homologous gene product that is enzymatically active; and (c) any nucleotide coding sequence that otherwise encodes a protein from any organism capable of hydrolyzing a human or animal lysosomal enzyme's native substrate or substrate  
30 analogue.

The invention also includes but is not limited to:  
(a) DNA vectors that contain any of the foregoing nucleotide coding sequences and/or their complements; (b) DNA expression and transformation vectors that contain expression constructs  
35 comprising any of the foregoing nucleotide coding sequences operatively associated with a regulatory element that directs

expression of the coding sequences in plant cells or plants;  
and (c) genetically engineered plant cells or plants that  
contain any of the foregoing coding sequences, operatively  
associated with a regulatory element that directs the  
5 expression of the coding and/or antisense sequences in the  
plant cell. As used herein, the term "regulatory element"  
includes but is not limited to inducible and non-inducible  
promoters, enhancers, operators and other elements known to  
those skilled in the art that drive and/or regulate gene  
10 expression. The invention also includes fragments,  
derivatives or other modifications of the DNA sequences  
described herein.

15 **5.2. TRANSFORMATION VECTORS TO DIRECT THE EXPRESSION  
OF LYSOSOMAL ENZYME CODING SEQUENCE**

**5.2.1. LYSOSOMAL ENZYME EXPRESSION CONSTRUCTS**

In order to express a lysosomal enzyme in a plant  
expression system, the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence is  
inserted into an appropriate expression construct and the  
20 expression construct is incorporated into a transformation  
vector for transfer into cells of the plant. The expression  
construct is preferably constructed so that the lysosomal  
enzyme coding sequence is operatively associated with one or  
more regulatory elements, including, e.g., promoters and/or  
25 enhancers, necessary for transcription and translation of the  
lysosomal enzyme coding sequence. Methods to construct the  
expression constructs and transformation vectors include  
standard *in vitro* genetic recombination and manipulation.  
See, for example, the techniques described in Weissbach and  
30 Weissbach, 1988, Methods For Plant Molecular Biology,  
Academic Press, Chapters 26-28.

Regulatory elements that may be used in the expression  
constructs include promoters which may be either heterologous  
or homologous to the plant cell. The promoter may be a plant  
35 promoter or a non-plant promoter which is capable of driving  
high levels transcription of a linked sequence in plant cells  
and plants. Non-limiting examples of plant promoters that

may be used effectively in practicing the invention include cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S, *rbcS*, the promoter for the chlorophyll a/b binding protein, *AdhI*, *NOS* and *HMG2*, or modifications or derivatives thereof. The promoter may be  
5 either constitutive or inducible. For example, and not by way of limitation, an inducible promoter can be a promoter that promotes expression or increased expression of the lysosomal enzyme nucleotide sequence after mechanical gene activation (MGA) of the plant, plant tissue or plant cell.  
10 One non-limiting example of such an MGA-inducible plant promoter is MeGA (described *infra*).

The expression constructs can be additionally modified according to methods known to those skilled in the art to enhance or optimize heterologous gene expression in plants  
15 and plant cells. Such modifications include but are not limited to mutating DNA regulatory elements to increase promoter strength or to alter the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence itself. Other modifications include deleting intron sequences or excess non-coding sequences from the 5' and/or  
20 3' ends of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence in order to minimize sequence- or distance-associated negative effects on expression of hGC, e.g., by minimizing or eliminating message destabilizing sequences.

The expression constructs may be further modified  
25 according to methods known to those skilled in the art to add, remove, or otherwise modify peptide signal sequences to alter signal peptide cleavage or to increase or change the targeting of the expressed lysosomal enzyme through the plant endomembrane system. For example, but not by way of  
30 limitation, the expression construct can be specifically engineered to target the lysosomal enzyme for secretion, or vacuolar localization, or retention in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER).

In one embodiment, the expression construct can be  
35 engineered to incorporate a nucleotide sequence that encodes a signal targeting the lysosomal enzyme to the plant vacuole.

For example, and not by way of limitation, the N-terminal 143 amino acid domain derived from the plant vacuolar protein, proaleurain (Holwerda et al., 1992, *supra*; Holwerda et al., 1990, *supra*), may be engineered into the expression construct  
5 to produce a signal peptide-lysosomal enzyme fusion product upon transcription and translation. The proaleurain signal peptide will direct the lysosomal enzyme to the plant cell vacuole, but is itself cleaved off during transit through the plant endomembrane system to generate the mature protein.

10 In another non-limiting embodiment, a signal peptide may be engineered into the expression construct to direct the lysosomal enzyme to be secreted from the plant cell. For example, and not by way of limitation, the signal peptide of tobacco PR-1, which is a secreted pathogenesis-related  
15 protein (Cornelissen et al., 1986, EMBO J. 5:37-40), can be engineered into the expression construct to direct the secretion of the lysosomal enzyme from the plant cell.

In an additional non-limiting embodiment, the signal peptide may be engineered into the expression construct to  
20 direct the lysosomal enzyme to be retained within the ER. Such ER-retained lysosomal enzymes may exhibit altered, and perhaps preferable, glycosylation patterns as a result of failure of the peptide to progress through the Golgi apparatus, thus resulting in a lack of subsequent glycosyl  
25 processing. For example, and not by way of limitation, a nucleotide sequence can be engineered into the expression construct to result in fusion of the amino acid sequence  
KDEL, <sup>(SEQ ID NO: 15)</sup> i.e., Lys-Asp-Glu-Leu, to the carboxyl-terminus of the lysosomal enzyme. The KDEL sequence results in retention of  
30 the lysosomal enzyme in the ER (Pfeffer and Rothman, 1987, Ann. Rev. Biochem. 56:829-852).

Expression construct may be further modified according to methods known to those skilled in the art to add coding sequences that facilitate purification of the lysosomal  
35 enzyme. In one non-limiting embodiment, a nucleotide sequence coding for the target epitope of a monoclonal

antibody may be engineered into the expression construct in operative association with the regulatory elements and situated so that the expressed epitope is fused to the lysosomal enzyme. For example, and not by way of limitation, 5 a nucleotide sequence coding for the FLAG™ epitope tag (International Biotechnologies, Inc., IBI), which is a hydrophilic marker peptide, can be inserted by standard techniques into the expression construct at a point corresponding to the carboxyl-terminus of the lysosomal 10 enzyme. The expressed FLAG™ epitope-lysosomal enzyme fusion product may then be detected and affinity-purified using anti-FLAG™ antibodies.

In another non-limiting embodiment, a nucleotide sequence can be engineered into the expression construct to 15 provide for a cleavable linker sequence between the lysosomal enzyme peptide sequence and any targeting signal, reporter peptide, selectable marker, or detectable marker, as described *supra*, that has not otherwise been cleaved from the lysosomal enzyme peptide sequence during peptide processing 20 and trafficking through the plant endomembrane system. Such a linker sequence can be selected so that it can be cleaved either chemically or enzymatically during purification of the lysosomal enzyme (Light et al., 1980, Anal. Biochem. 106:199-206).

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#### 5.2.2. PLANT TRANSFORMATION VECTORS

The transformation vectors of the invention may be developed from any plant transformation vector known in the art include, but are not limited to, the well-known family of 30 Ti plasmids from *Agrobacterium* and derivatives thereof, including both integrative and binary vectors, and including but not limited to pBIB-KAN, pGA471, pEND4K, pGV3850, and pMON505. Also included are DNA and RNA plant viruses, including but not limited to CaMV, geminiviruses, tobacco 35 mosaic virus, and derivatives engineered therefrom, any of which can effectively serve as vectors to transfer a

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lysosomal enzyme coding sequence, or functional equivalent thereof, with associated regulatory elements, into plant cells and/or autonomously maintain the transferred sequence. In addition, transposable elements may be utilized in

5 conjunction with any vector to transfer the coding sequence and regulatory sequence into a plant cell.

To aid in the selection of transformants and transfectants, the transformation vectors may preferably be modified to comprise a coding sequence for a reporter gene  
10 product or selectable marker. Such a coding sequence for a reporter or selectable marker should preferably be in operative association with the regulatory element coding sequence described *supra*.

Reporter genes which may be useful in the invention  
15 include but are not limited to the  $\beta$ -glucuronidase (GUS) gene (Jefferson et al., 1986, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 83:8447), and the luciferase gene (Ow et al., 1986, Science 234:856). Coding sequences that encode selectable markers which may be useful in the invention include but are not  
20 limited to those sequences that encode gene products conferring resistance to antibiotics, anti-metabolites or herbicides, including but not limited to kanamycin, hygromycin, streptomycin, phosphinothricin, gentamicin, methotrexate, glyphosate and sulfonyleurea herbicides, and  
25 include but are not limited to coding sequences that encode enzymes such as neomycin phosphotransferase II (NPTII), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), and hygromycin phosphotransferase I (HPT, HYG).

### 30        5.3. TRANSFORMATION/TRANSFECTION OF PLANTS

A variety of plant expression systems may be utilized to express the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence or its functional equivalent. Particular plant species may be selected from any dicotyledonous, monocotyledonous species,  
35 gymnospermous, lower vascular or non-vascular plant, including any cereal crop or other agriculturally important

crop. Such plants include, but are not limited to, alfalfa, *Arabidopsis*, asparagus, barley, cabbage, carrot, celery, corn, cotton, cucumber, flax, lettuce, oil seed rape, pear, peas, petunia, poplar, potato, rice, soybean, sugar beet,  
5 sunflower, tobacco, tomato, wheat and white clover.

Methods by which plants may be transformed or transfected are well-known to those skilled in the art. See, for example, Plant Biotechnology, 1989, Kung & Arntzen, eds., Butterworth Publishers, ch. 1, 2. Examples of transformation  
10 methods which may be effectively used in the invention include but are not limited to *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of leaf discs or other plant tissues, microinjection of DNA directly into plant cells, electroporation of DNA into plant cell protoplasts, liposome  
15 or spheroplast fusion, microprojectile bombardment, and the transfection of plant cells or tissues with appropriately engineered plant viruses.

Plant tissue culture procedures necessary to practice the invention are well-known to those skilled in the art.  
20 See, for example, Dixon, 1985, Plant Cell Culture: A Practical Approach, IRL Press. Those tissue culture procedures that may be used effectively to practice the invention include the production and culture of plant protoplasts and cell suspensions, sterile culture propagation  
25 of leaf discs or other plant tissues on media containing engineered strains of transforming agents such as, for example, *Agrobacterium* or plant virus strains and the regeneration of whole transformed plants from protoplasts, cell suspensions and callus tissues.

30 The invention may be practiced by transforming or transfecting a plant or plant cell with a transformation vector containing an expression construct comprising a coding sequence for the lysosomal enzyme and selecting for transformants or transfectants that express the lysosomal  
35 enzyme. Transformed or transfected plant cells and tissues may be selected by techniques well-known to those of skill in

the art, including but not limited to detecting reporter gene products or selecting based on the presence of one of the selectable markers described *supra*. The transformed or transfected plant cells or tissues are then grown and whole  
5 plants regenerated therefrom. Integration and maintenance of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence in the plant genome can be confirmed by standard techniques, e.g., by Southern hybridization analysis, PCR analysis, including reverse transcriptase-PCR (RT-PCR), or immunological assays for the  
10 expected protein products. Once such a plant transformant or transfectant is identified, a non-limiting embodiment of the invention involves the clonal expansion and use of that transformant or transfectant in the production of lysosomal enzyme.

15 As one non-limiting example of a transformation procedure, *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of plant leaf disks can follow procedures that are well known to those skilled in the art. Briefly, leaf disks can be excised from axenically grown plant seedlings, incubated in a bacterial  
20 suspension, for example,  $10^9$  cfu/ml, of *A. tumefaciens* containing an engineered plasmid comprising a selectable marker such as, for example, kanamycin resistance, and transferred to selective "shooting" medium containing, for example, kanamycin, that will block growth of bacteria and  
25 untransformed plant cells and induce shoot initiation and leaf formation from transformed cells. Shoots are regenerated and then transferred to selective media to trigger root initiation. Stringent antibiotic selection at the rooting step is useful to permit only stably transformed  
30 shoots to generate roots. Small transgenic plantlets may then be transferred to sterile peat, vermiculite, or soil and gradually hardened off for growth in the greenhouse or in the field.

35

#### 5.4. IDENTIFICATION AND PURIFICATION OF THE LYSOSOMAL ENZYME GENE PRODUCT

Transcription of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence and production of the lysosomal enzyme in transformed or transfected plants, plant tissues, or plant cells can be confirmed and characterized by a variety of methods known to those of skill in the art. Transcription of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence can be analyzed by standard techniques, including but not limited to detecting the presence of lysosomal enzyme messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) transcripts in transformed or transfected plants or plant cells using Northern hybridization analysis or RT-PCR amplification.

Detection of the lysosomal enzyme itself can be carried out using any of a variety of standard techniques, including, but not limited to, detecting lysosomal enzyme activity in plant extracts, e.g., by detecting hydrolysis either of the enzyme's natural substrate or a substrate analogue. Additionally, the lysosomal enzyme can be detected immunologically using monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies, or immuno-reactive fragments or derivatives thereof, raised against the enzyme, e.g., by Western blot analysis, and limited amino acid sequence determination of the protein.

Indirect identification of enzyme production in a plant can be performed using any detectable marker or reporter linked to the lysosomal enzyme. For example, but not by way of limitation, the FLAG™ epitope, which can be linked to the lysosomal enzyme, as described *supra*, is detectable in plant tissues and extracts using anti-FLAG M2 monoclonal antibodies (IBI) in conjunction with the Western Exposure™ chemi-luminescent detection system (Clontech).

Lysosomal enzyme production in a transformed or transfected plant can be confirmed and further characterized by histochemical localization, the methods of which are well-known to those skilled in the art.. See, for example, Techniques in Immunocytochemistry, Vol I, 1982, Bullock and Petrusz, eds., Academic Press, Inc. For example, but not by

way of limitation, either fresh, frozen, or fixed and embedded tissue can be sectioned, and the sections probed with either polyclonal or monoclonal primary antibodies raised against the lysosomal enzyme or, for example, anti-  
5 FLAG™ monoclonal antibodies. The primary antibodies can then be detected by standard techniques, e.g., using the biotinylated protein A-alkaline phosphatase-conjugated streptavidin technique, or a secondary antibody bearing a detectable label that binds to the primary antibody.  
10 The expression products can be further purified and characterized as described in the subsections below.

#### 5.4.1. PRODUCTION AND PURIFICATION OF THE LYSOSOMAL ENZYME GENE PRODUCT

15 One non-limiting method to produce and purify the lysosomal enzyme is described here, wherein the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence is operably associated with an inducible promoter in the expression construct. Leaf or other tissue or cells from a transgenic plant or cell culture  
20 transformed or transfected with this expression construct can be processed to induce expression of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence. This induction process may include inducing the activation of lysosomal genes by one or more methods, applied separately or in combination, including but not  
25 limited to physical wounding or other mechanical gene activation (MGA), and application of chemical or pathogenic elicitors or plant hormones. Lysosomal gene activation levels may also be enhanced in plant cells or tissues by factors such as the availability of nutrients, gases such as  
30 O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>, and light or heat. After induction of expression, the tissue can be stored, e.g., at -20°C. If the lysosomal protein is targeted for localization within the plant cell, the plant cell wall must be penetrated to extract the protein. Accordingly, the plant tissue can be ground to a  
35 fine powder, e.g., by using a tissue grinder and dry ice, or homogenized with a ground glass tissue homogenizer. To resuspend the lysosomal enzyme, plant membranes must be

solubilized using an extraction buffer containing a detergent, e.g., a bile detergent such as 1% (w/v) sodium taurocholate, in a buffered solution, e.g., 25 mM sodium citrate, pH 7.0. The homogenate can then be clarified by, 5 for example, centrifugation at 10,000 x g for 30 min to produce a cell-free homogenate.

The lysosomal enzyme must be further purified if it is to be useful as a therapeutic or research reagent. The lysosomal enzyme can be purified from plant extracts 10 according to methods well-known to those of skill in the art (Furbish et al., 1977, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 74:3560-3563). Once the presence of the enzyme is confirmed it can be isolated from plant extracts by standard biochemical techniques including, but not limited to, differential 15 ammonium sulfate (AS) precipitation, gel filtration chromatography or affinity chromatography, e.g., utilizing hydrophobic, immunological or lectin binding. At each step of the purification process the yield, purity and activity of the enzyme can be determined by one or more biochemical 20 assays, including but not limited to: (1) detecting hydrolysis of the enzyme's substrate or a substrate analogue; (2) immunological analysis by use of an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA); (3) sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) analysis; and 25 (4) Western analysis. The enzyme may be alternatively or additionally purified by affinity chromatography wherein the enzyme binds to its inhibitor which is linked, for example, to an inert substrate.

Once solubilized, all enzyme-containing fractions can be 30 maintained, for example, by storage at 4°C, and stabilized if necessary, e.g., with 4 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, 5 mM EDTA, and/or possibly with high levels of glycerol or ethylene glycol.

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#### 5.4.2. PROTEOLYTIC PROCESSING OF THE SIGNAL PEPTIDE

In order to address whether the plant expression system efficiently recognizes and correctly cleaves the human signal peptide from the lysosomal enzyme, the plant-produced enzyme  
5 can be purified and analyzed by N-terminal sequencing. Accordingly, the enzyme can, for example, be treated with Endo-F/N-glucanase (Boehringer Mannheim) to remove N-linked glycans, and the resulting peptide can be repurified by  
10 methods described *supra*. The purity of the enzyme can be determined based, for example, on silver-stained SDS-PAGE. The band containing the enzyme can be excised from the gel, the peptide eluted therefrom, and then analyzed by commercial  
15 N-terminal amino acid sequencing to determine whether the correct cleavage of the signal peptide has occurred. Incomplete cleavage can be detected, for example, as a double band on SDS-PAGE, or as mixed N-terminal sequences.

#### 5.4.3. N-LINKED GLYCOSYLATION IN PLANTS VERSUS ANIMALS

20 The oligosaccharides of native human and animal lysosomal enzymes are typical antennary structures containing N-acetylglucosamine, mannose, and sialic acid. The glycoconjugate associated with the lysosomal enzyme of the  
25 invention may be determined, for example, by lectin binding studies (Reddy et al., 1985, Biochem. Med. 33:200-210, Cummings, 1994, Meth. Enzymol. 230:66-86).

Plant glycans do not contain sialic acid, which is a prevalent terminal sugar in mammalian glycans. In addition,  
30 the complex glycans of plants are generally smaller and contain a  $\beta$  1-2 xylose residue attached to the  $\beta$ -linked mannose residues of the core (Gomez and Chrispeels, 1994, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:1829-1833).

Determination of the glycan composition and structure of  
35 the lysosomal enzyme of the invention is of particular interest because: (a) the glycan composition will indicate the status of the protein's movement through the Golgi; and

(b) the presence of a complex glycan may indicate whether an antigenic response will be triggered in humans.

Several molecular, genetic and chemical approaches can be used to raise the proportion of the high-mannose form of  
5 glycans on lysosomal enzymes, making them more similar in structure to the native human protein (Grabowski *et al.*, 1995, *Ann. Int. Med.* 122:33-39; Berg-Fussman *et al.*, 1993, *J. Biol. Chem.* 268:14861-14866). For example, but not by way of limitation, the mannose analog, 1-deoxymannojirimycin  
10 (dMM), inhibits mannosidase I, the first Golgi-specific enzyme involved in glycan processing. Plant tissues treated with dMM produce glycoproteins which lack fucose and xylose and maintain a glycan profile consistent with inhibition at the mannosidase I step (Vitale *et al.*, 1989, *Pl. Phys.*  
15 89:1079-1084). Treatment of lysosomal enzyme-expressing plant tissues with dMM may be useful to produce lysosomal enzymes with a relatively homogeneous high-mannose glycan profile. Such lysosomal enzymes should be highly effective for use in treatment of lysosomal storage diseases in human  
20 and animals.

#### **5.5. CLONAL PROPAGATION AND BREEDING OF TRANSGENIC PLANTS**

Once a transformed or transfected plant is selected that  
25 produces a useful amount of the recombinant lysosomal enzyme of the invention, one embodiment of the invention contemplates the production of clones of this plant either by well-known asexual reproductive methods or by standard plant tissue culture methods. For example, tissues from a plant of  
30 interest can be induced to form genetically identical plants from asexual cuttings. Alternatively, callus tissue and/or cell suspensions can be produced from such a plant and subcultured. An increased number of plants can subsequently be regenerated therefrom by transfer to the appropriate  
35 regenerative culture medium.

Alternatively, the recombinant lysosomal enzyme-producing plant may be crossed as a parental line, either

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male or female, with another plant of the same species or variety, which other plant may or may not also be transgenic for the lysosomal coding sequence, to produce an F1 generation. Members of the F1 and subsequent generations can  
5 be tested, as described *supra*, for the stable inheritance and maintenance of the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence, as well as for lysosomal enzyme production. A breeding program is thus contemplated whereby the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence may be transferred into other plant strains or  
10 varieties having advantageous agronomic characteristics, for example, by a program of controlled backcrossing. The invention thus encompasses parental lines comprising the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence, as well as all plants in subsequent generations descending from a cross in which at  
15 least one of the parents comprised the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence. The invention further encompasses all seeds comprising the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence and from which such plants can be grown, and tissue cultures, including callus tissues, cell suspensions and protoplasts,  
20 comprising the lysosomal enzyme coding sequence, whether or not they can be regenerated back to plants.

#### **5.6. METHODS FOR THERAPEUTIC USE OF LYSOSOMAL ENZYMES**

The recombinant lysosomal enzymes of the invention are  
25 useful for therapeutic treatment of lysosomal storage diseases by providing a therapeutic amount of a particular lysosomal enzyme, or a derivative or modification thereof, to a patient suffering from a lysosomal storage disease or condition resulting from a deficiency of the corresponding  
30 human or animal active form of that enzyme.

By "therapeutic amount" is meant an amount of enzymatically active lysosomal enzyme which will cause significant alleviation of clinical symptoms of a particular lysosomal storage disease.

35 A therapeutic amount causes "significant alleviation of clinical symptoms" of the particular lysosomal storage

disease if it serves to reduce one or more of the pathological effects or symptoms of the disease or to reduce the rate of progression of one or more of such pathological effects or symptoms.

5 An effective dosage and treatment protocol may be determined by conventional means, starting with a low dose in laboratory animals and then increasing the dosage while monitoring the effects, and systematically varying the dosage regimen as well. The amount of recombinant lysosomal enzyme  
10 to be administered to a patient suffering from a lysosomal disease or condition will vary. Numerous factors may be taken into consideration by a clinician when determining an optimal dose for a given subject. These factors include the size of the patient, the age of the patient, the general  
15 condition of the patient, the particular disease being treated, the severity of the disease, the presence of other drugs in the patient, and the like. Trial dosages would be chosen after consideration of the results of animal studies, and any available clinical literature with respect to past  
20 results of replacement therapy for the particular lysosomal storage disease.

For example, therapeutic amounts of recombinant hGC and IDUA and modified hGC and IDUA produced according to the invention may in each instance encompass dosages of between  
25 about 10 and about 500 mg per 70 kg patient per month, depending upon the severity of the patient's symptoms of the Gaucher's or Hurler's disease.

The amount of recombinant lysosomal enzyme of the invention administered to the patient may be decreased or  
30 increased according to the enzymatic activity of the particular lysosomal enzyme. For example, administration of a recombinant lysosomal enzyme of the invention which has been modified to have increased enzymatic activity relative to the native human or animal enzyme will require  
35 administration of a lesser amount to the patient than a

native human or animal lysosomal enzyme having lower enzymatic activity.

In addition, the amount of recombinant lysosomal enzyme administered to the patient may be modified over time  
5 depending on a change in the condition of the patient as treatment progresses, the determination of which is within the skill of the attending clinician.

The invention also provides pharmaceutical formulations for use of the recombinant lysosomal enzyme in treating  
10 lysosomal storage diseases. The formulations comprise a recombinant lysosomal enzyme of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. A variety of aqueous carriers may be used, e.g., water, buffered water, 0.4% saline, 0.3% glycine, and the like. The pharmaceutical  
15 formulations may also comprise additional components that serve to extend the shelf-life of pharmaceutical formulations, including preservatives, protein stabilizers, and the like. The formulations are preferably sterile and free of particulate matter (for injectable forms). These  
20 compositions may be sterilized by conventional, well-known sterilization techniques.

The compositions may contain pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliary substances as required to approximate physiological conditions, such as pH adjusting and buffering agents,  
25 toxicity adjusting agents and the like, e.g., sodium acetate, sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, sodium lactate, etc.

The formulations may be adapted for various forms of administration, including intramuscularly, subcutaneously,  
30 intravenously and the like. The subject formulations may also be formulated so as to provide for the sustained release of a lysosomal enzyme. Actual methods for preparing parenterally administrable compositions and adjustments necessary for administration to subjects will be known or  
35 apparent to those skilled in the art and are described in more detail in , for example, Remington's Pharmaceutical

Science, 17th Ed., Mack Publishing Company, Easton, Pa. (1985), which is incorporated herein by reference.

The invention is illustrated in the working examples described *infra*, for the expression of hGC in tobacco.

5

6. **EXAMPLE 1: PRODUCTION AND ISOLATION OF RECOMBINANT MODIFIED hGC FROM TRANSGENIC TOBACCO PLANTS**

The subsections below describe the production of an enzymatically active modified human glucocerebrosidase (hGC) in tobacco.

10

6.1. **CONSTRUCTION OF A MODIFIED hGC EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT AND INSERTION INTO A PLANT TRANSFORMATION VECTOR**

6.1.1. **PROMOTER:hGC EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT**

15 *E. coli* containing the hGC cDNA sequence cloned from fibroblast cells, as described (Sorge et al., 1985, *supra*), was obtained from the ATCC (Accession No. 65696). Oligo-nucleotide primers GC1 (corresponding to the amino terminus of the hGC coding region as shown in FIG. 1), and GC4 (corresponding to the carboxy terminus of the hGC coding  
20 region), were used to amplify the hGC cDNA sequence using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Primer GC1 was designed to include the hGC ATG initiation codon and to generate a 5' XbaI site. Primer GC4, complementary to hGC mRNA, does not include the stop codon for the gene and was designed to  
25 generate an EcoRI restriction site. The design of oligonucleotide GC4 also corrected an altered base in the ATCC sequence (GenBank/EMBL #M11080), thus producing an Arg-Arg-Gln sequence upstream to the site where a FLAG™ epitope will be inserted.

30 The 1.9 kb fragment generated by PCR was purified by agarose gel elution, digested with XbaI and EcoRI, and ligated into the similarly digested plasmid, Bluescript SK<sup>-</sup> (Stratagene). This cloning vector was chosen because of its small size (2.9 kb) and its extensive multiple cloning  
35 region.

The MeGA promoter, comprising a 456 bp fragment (FIG. 11) (SEQ ID NO:5) as modified from the tomato HMG2 promoter (Weissenborn et al., 1995, Phys. Plantarum 93:393-400), was used to drive the expression of the hGC gene. The MeGA promoter is inducible and has a low basal expression in unstressed plant tissues, but is highly induced in both immature and mature tissues by the process of mechanical gene activation (MGA), or by a variety of chemicals that induce plant defense responses. MGA includes but is not limited to the mechanical shredding of leaf tissue, for example, into 2 mm strips, followed by storage at room temperature on Whatman 3MM chromatography paper moistened with sterile water in a sealed plastic bag. The expression of a MeGA:GUS construct has been monitored in transgenic tobacco plants from seedling stage to flowering and it showed no loss of inducible activity as plants reached maturity.

The 456 bp MeGA promoter was PCR-amplified using primers which incorporated a NotI restriction site at the 5' end of the fragment and a XbaI site at the 3' end of the promoter. This fragment also contained the 5'-untranslated leader of its native tomato sequence and thus provided all necessary 5' elements for expression of the fused hGC sequences. Following amplification, the fragment was PAGE-purified, digested with NotI and XbaI, and ligated into the plasmid containing the hGC coding region, which had also been NotI/XbaI digested, to produce a MeGA:hGC fusion.

#### 6.1.2. GENERATION OF A MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ CONSTRUCT

In order to facilitate detection and purification of the hGC gene product, a FLAG™ epitope coding sequence was fused in frame to the C-terminus of the hGC coding sequence. The FLAG™ epitope (IBI) is the octapeptide Asp-Tyr-Lys-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys (or DYKDDDDK) (SEQ ID NO:10) designed to be a hydrophilic marker peptide situated on a protein surface to facilitate antibody interactions (Shelness, 1992, Epitope 1:11-17; Hopp et al., 1988, Bio/Tech. 6:1204-1210).

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A double-stranded oligonucleotide (FIG. 1) was synthesized which incorporated: (a) a 5' EcoRI restriction site which creates an in-frame fusion with the engineered hGC C-terminus EcoRI site; (b) the FLAG™ octapeptide coding region; (c) a stop codon following the epitope; and (d) a 3' SstI/EcoRI site. The DNA encoding FLAG™ was PAGE-purified, digested with EcoRI, and the fragment encoding FLAG™ inserted into the EcoRI site of the MeGA:hGC plasmid, and tested for insert orientation.

- 10 The translational fusion was tested by *in vitro* transcription using T3 RNA polymerase driven by the T3 promoter in the pBluescript SK- vector following excision of the MeGA promoter, and *in vitro* translation in the presence of <sup>35</sup>S-methionine using rabbit reticulocyte lysates (BRL).
- 15 The major translation product was about 56-59 kDa, consistent with the expected size of the hGC:FLAG™ fusion product (59 kDa). In addition, the hGC:FLAG™ fusion construct was completely sequenced using the dideoxy-sequenase system (USB). The nucleotide sequence of the hGC:FLAG™ fusion (SEQ
- 20 ID NO:3) is shown in FIG. 9; the deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:4) is shown in FIG. 10. The construction altered amino acid residue 545 to an arginine (R) and added ten amino acid residues, including the FLAG™ octapeptide, to the carboxyterminal of hGC. See FIG. 10.

25

#### 6.1.3. INSERTION OF THE MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ CONSTRUCT INTO A PLANT TRANSFORMATION VECTOR

- The MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ expression construct was excised from the pBluescript vector by digestion with SstI and
- 30 ligated into the corresponding restriction site in the multiple cloning region of the plant binary vector pBIB-KAN (Becker, 1990, Nucl. Acids Res. 18:203) to form plasmid CTProl:hGC:FLAG™. As shown in FIG. 1, insertion of the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ expression construct correctly positioned a
- 35 plant transcriptional terminator for the construct. In addition, the binary vector carries an NPTII gene within the

transfer DNA (T-DNA) which allows for selection of transformed plant cells based on kanamycin resistance. The engineered plasmid was transformed into *E. coli* strain DH5 $\alpha$  and tested for correct insertion prior to mobilization into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain LBA4404 (Hoekma et al., 1983, Nature 303:179-180).

## **6.2. INTRODUCTION OF THE MeGA:hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT INTO TOBACCO AND ASSESSMENT OF hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> EXPRESSION**

### **10                    6.2.1.        GENERATION OF TRANSGENIC TOBACCO PLANTS CONTAINING THE MeGA:hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> CONSTRUCT**

*Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation (Horsch et al., 1984, Science 223:496-498) was used to stably integrate the modified T-DNA sequence containing the MeGA:hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> construct into the genome of tobacco. Leaf discs excised from aseptically grown seedlings of tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*) cvs. Xanthi (a non-commercial variety) and VA116 (a commercial, flue-cured variety) were briefly incubated in a bacterial suspension (10<sup>9</sup> cfu/ml) of *A. tumefaciens* containing the engineered plasmid (FIG. 2A), and co-cultivated on plates containing a nurse-culture of cultured tobacco cells for 48 hr. The leaf discs were then transferred to MS media (Murashige & Skoog, 1962, Physiol. Plant. 15:473-497) containing 100 mg/L kanamycin and 9.12  $\mu$ M zeatin, which is a selective "shooting" medium that blocks the growth of bacteria and untransformed plant cells, and encourages shoot formation (Horsch et al., *supra*).

Shoots were observed three weeks post-inoculation (FIG. 2B) and were excised and placed on selective rooting media (100 mg/L kanamycin, 10  $\mu$ M indole-3-acetic acid in MS media). After 1 week, the rooted plantlets (FIG. 2C) were transferred to sterile potting soil and placed in the greenhouse (FIG. 2D). Additional shoots were excised and rooted over the next 4 weeks with a total of 45 individual transformants being brought to soil (FIG. 2E). The presence of the gene

construct did not appear to have any effect on the growth or development of these transformants.

**6.2.2. SOUTHERN ANALYSIS OF MeGA:hGC:FLAG™  
INSERTIONS IN TRANSGENIC PLANTS**

5 The stable insertion of the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ construct was confirmed by genomic Southern hybridization analysis. Total DNA was isolated from leaf tissue of eight young regenerants and digested with HindIII, which cuts only once within the  
10 introduced DNA (see FIG. 1). The second HindIII site flanks the introduced DNA and is located within the plant's genomic DNA. Thus, when probed with hGC cDNA sequences (1.7 kb HindIII fragment from pBluescript intermediate vector) 3' of the HindIII site, each fragment should be a distinctive size  
15 and represent an independent insertional event within the plant genome.

Five of the eight putative transformants tested showed multiple hGC inserts (FIG. 3). Four of these plants (X-1, X-8, X-9 and X-11) were derived from the Xanthi cultivar.  
20 One plant (V-1) was derived from cultivar VA116. Transformant X-8 had less DNA loaded and showed two bands upon longer autoradiographic exposure. In addition, high levels of hGC were detected in other transformants for which Southern hybridizations were not carried out, including a  
25 plant designated X-27.

**6.2.3. NORTHERN ANALYSIS OF TRANSCRIPTIONAL  
ACTIVATION OF THE MeGA:hGC:FLAG™  
TRANSGENE**

As described *supra*, the MeGA promoter is essentially  
30 inactive in unstressed leaves, but is activated by MGA (see FIG. 4) or by treatment with chemicals that induce plant defense responses. In order to demonstrate that transgenic plants express hGC:FLAG™ mRNA in the expected inducible expression pattern, transformed plant tissue was induced by  
35 MGA, i.e., by shredding the leaf tissue into 2 mm strips, followed by incubation of Whatman #1 paper moistened with

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sterile water within a ZipLoc™ plastic bag and incubated at room temperature for 24 hrs. Total RNA was isolated by standard guanidino-thiocyanate methods from leaf tissue of untransformed and transformed plants immediately upon  
5 excision (time 0), or at 24 hr after MGA.

As shown in FIG. 4, hGC:FLAG™ mRNA levels were undetectable in leaves of X-11 at the time 0, but showed a marked increase in hGC transcript levels 24 hr after MGA. A more detailed time course of a second plant, V-1, showed  
10 detectable mRNA by 4 hr, maximal RNA levels at 24 hr, and mRNA levels declining at 48 hr. In addition, transcript levels increased in response to chemical defense elicitors compared to MGA. This pattern of expression is exactly that expected of a transgene construct linked to the MeGA promoter  
15 (Park et al., 1992, Pl. Mol. Biol. 20:327-331; Yang et al., 1991, Pl. Cell 3:397-405).

#### **6.2.4. IMMUNODETECTION OF THE hGC:FLAG™ PROTEIN IN TRANSGENIC PLANT EXTRACTS**

As described *supra*, the hGC:FLAG™ fusion construct was  
20 designed to utilize the FLAG™ epitope to facilitate detection and purification of the hGC:FLAG™ fusion protein. Seven weeks after plants were potted in soil, leaf discs from 35 plants of the 45 transformants described above were harvested  
25 (and thereby wounded) to induce transgene expression. Extracts from the leaf discs of control plants and transgenic plants were spotted on nitrocellulose membranes for immuno-dot blot analysis. Monoclonal antibodies (anti-FLAG M2, IBI) against the FLAG™ epitope, in conjunction with the  
30 Western Exposure™ chemiluminescent detection system (Clontech, Inc.), were used to test for immuno-reactive material. Of the 35 plants tested, 25 showed significant transgene expression.

Western analysis of extracts from wounded leaves of  
35 untransformed plants and transformed plants were tested for immuno-reactivity to polyclonal antibodies raised against hGC (FIG. 5B). These antibodies have not shown binding to any

mammalian proteins other than the acid  $\beta$ -glucosidase, i.e., glucocerebrosidase of chimpanzees. Extracts from transgenic plants showed strong immuno-reactivity by a single protein band with an apparent molecular weight of about 66-69 kDa (FIG. 5B). The size of the immuno-reactive protein was reduced to about 58 kDa after N-glucanase treatment, indicating that the enzyme was glycosylated. Analogous Western immunoblots probed with anti-FLAG™ antibodies showed additional similar molecular weight bands (FIG. 5A), suggesting that both the polyclonal antibody to hGC and the anti-FLAG™ antibody recognize the same fusion protein product.

#### 6.2.5. ENZYMATIC ACTIVITY IN TOBACCO EXTRACTS

Plant tissues were tested for hGC activity using a sensitive and convenient assay that is widely utilized in Gaucher disease research (Grabowski et al., 1990, in: Critical Reviews in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 25:385-414, CRC Press, Inc.). This assay uses the fluorometric substrate, 4-methylumbelliferyl- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside (4MuGlc) (the "4MuGlc assay"). An increase in absorbance at 460 nm results from cleavage of 4MuGlc, and indicates the presence of enzymatic activity. 4MuGlc also serves as a substrate for endogenous plant  $\beta$ -glucosidases which have been detected in leaves of both control and transgenic plants. However, several distinctive properties of hGC were used to distinguish between endogenous glucosidase activity and hGC activity (TABLE 1). The differences in solubility together with the use of anti-FLAG™ affinity system for purification of the hGC:FLAG™ were employed to solve the problem of separating hGC:FLAG™ from the endogenous plant  $\beta$ -glucosidases (Table 2, FIG. 8).

**TABLE 1. Comparisons of endogenous tobacco  $\beta$ -glucosidase and hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>**

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	CHARACTERISTICS	ENDOGENOUS	hGC:FLAG <sup>TM</sup>
5	Solubility	Present in soluble extract in 0.1% Triton X-100 buffer	Membrane-associated, requiring high Triton concentration, sonication, or freeze/thaw to solubilize
10	Response to MGA	High levels in unstressed leaves, declines approx. 80% post-MGA	Absent in unstressed leaves, induced 24-48 hrs post-MGA
15	Inhibition	Weakly inhibited by conduritol B epoxide (CBE) (Sigma)	Strongly inhibited by CBE
	Substrate	Active with MuGlc	Active with MuGlc
20	Antibody response	No immuno-reactivity to anti-FLAG <sup>TM</sup> or anti-hGCCase antibodies	Immuno-reactive to both anti-FLAG <sup>TM</sup> and anti-hGCCase antibodies

**6.2.6. ACCUMULATION OF hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> PROTEIN IN TOBACCO TISSUES**

- 25 In order to determine the best length of incubation time post-MGA for optimum yield of hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup> protein and hGC enzyme activity, extracts were analyzed from transgenic leaves at 0, 2, 4, 8, 16, and 24 hrs post-MGA. Plant tissue (0.5 gm) was ground using dry ice and a coffee bean grinder.
- 30 To solubilize hGC:FLAG<sup>TM</sup>, the ground tissue was resuspended in 1.0 ml of extraction buffer containing 25 mM sodium citrate pH 7.0, 1% (w/v) sodium taurocholate, 4 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, and 5 mM EDTA. The homogenate was frozen in a dry ice/ethanol bath for 30 min and thawed at 4°C for 2 hrs.
- 35 This freeze-thaw procedure was repeated. Cell debris was pelleted at 14,000 x g for 15 min. at 4°C. The cell free

supernatant was collected and brought up to 40% (v/v) glycerol in order inhibit the denaturation of hGC:FLAG™ protein.

Western analysis was carried out on 10 µg of soluble  
5 protein from leaf extracts to test for immuno-reactivity to polyclonal antibodies raised against hGC (FIG. 5B) and monoclonal antibodies against the FLAG™ epitope (FIG. 5A). The highest level of induction of hGC:FLAG™ protein occurred between 8 and 12 hrs post-MGA.

10 To determine the optimum time post-MGA for obtaining the highest level of hGC enzymatic activity, 0.1 µg of leaf extracts were assayed using the 4MuGlc assay. The highest hGC activity was found in extracts from 12 hrs post-wounded tissue (FIG. 6).

15

### 6.3. PURIFICATION OF hGC:FLAG™ FROM TOBACCO EXTRACTS

Forty gms of post-wounded (12 hrs) tissue was ground to a fine powder using dry ice and a coffee bean grinder. One hundred mls of extract buffer were added and the sample was  
20 made into a slurry using a polytron (Brinkman Scientific). The extract was frozen in a dry ice/ethanol bath for 1 hr and thawed for 16 hrs at 4°C. Cell debris was pelleted at 14,000 x g for 30 min. The supernatant was filtered through 4 layers of cheese cloth and the filtrate was saved. An 1 ml  
25 aliquot was stored in 40% (v/v) glycerol for later protein and hGC enzymatic activity determination, while ammonium sulfate (AS) was gradually added with stirring to the remaining filtrate to 33% (w/v) final concentration and incubated at 4°C for 1 hr. The homogenate was cleared by  
30 centrifugation at 14,000 x g for 30 min. The supernatant was dialyzed overnight at 4°C against the following buffer: 0.1 M sodium citrate, pH 6.0, 4 mM β-mercaptoethanol and 5 mM EDTA. The supernatant was clarified by centrifugation at 14,000 x g for 30 min. The cleared supernatant was  
35 concentrated (Amicon, YM30 filters) to a final volume of 5 mls, and 0.5 ml of the concentrated AS supernatant was saved

for protein and hGC enzyme activity analysis. The hGC:FLAG™ in 1 ml of concentrated supernatant was purified by affinity chromatography using an anti-FLAG™ affinity column.

To utilize the FLAG™ epitope for purification of the  
5 hGC:FLAG™ protein, 1 ml of leaf extract prepared as above was applied to a 1 ml anti-FLAG™ M2 affinity column. The column was previously equilibrated with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS; 50 mM, pH 6.4) containing 10% glycerol and 4 mM  $\beta$ -mercapto-ethanol at 4°C. After several washes with PBS, the  
10 bound hGC:FLAG™ protein was eluted with three 1 ml aliquots of purified FLAG™ peptide (IBI), i.e., 1 ml at 500  $\mu$ g/ml, followed by 2 x 1 ml at 250  $\mu$ g/ml. Eluted material was slot-blotted onto a nitrocellulose membrane and tested for immuno-reactivity to the anti-FLAG™ M2 antibody, and analyzed  
15 by SDS-PAGE, and stained with Commassie blue to determine relative purity (FIG. 7A). No immuno-reactive material was eluted in the first fraction since release of the bound hGC:FLAG™ protein requires equilibration with the peptide. As a consequence, the second and third eluted fractions  
20 contained the majority of immuno-reactive material. SDS-PAGE analysis of anti-FLAG™-purified hGC:FLAG™ protein showed a single band co-migrating with the anti-FLAG™ immuno-reactive protein (FIG. 7A).

In order to utilize the properties of the glycans  
25 present on the hGC:FLAG™ protein for purification purposes, hGC:FLAG™ protein was also isolated using a concanavalin-A (ConA) affinity column (Sigma). Concentrated tissue extract (1.5 ml) was loaded onto a 1.5 ml bed volume of ConA in column buffer (0.1 M sodium citrate pH 6.5, 0.15 M sodium  
30 chloride). An equal volume of column buffer was added to the concentrated extract and passed through the column twice at 4°C. The ConA column was washed three times with column buffer using three times the bed volume of buffer. The bound hGC:FLAG™ was eluted with 5 mls of 0.1 M methyl  
35  $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (Sigma) followed by 5 mls of 1 M methyl  $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside. Fractions were collected and assayed

for protein content and hGC enzymatic activity. All fractions containing hGC enzyme activity were concentrated (Amicon, YM30 filters) to a final volume of 0.5 ml. To stabilize the hGC enzymatic activity of the hGC:FLAG™ protein, the concentrated extract was made 40% (v/v) in glycerol and stored at 4°C. SDS-PAGE analysis of the ConA purified hGC:FLAG™ protein (FIG. 7B) showed a band migrating at 66-69 kd and three lower molecular weight bands that stained equally with Commassie blue.

Enzyme activity and protein determination of fractions from each step in the purification indicate that the most effective method to purify hGC:FLAG™ was to employ anti-FLAG™ affinity chromatography followed by the ConA affinity chromatography (see Table 2 and FIGS. 7A-B).

TABLE 2. PURIFICATION OF hGC:FLAG™ FROM TOBACCO EXTRACTS

Fraction	Protein Conc. (nmole 4MU/min/μg/ml)	Specific activity	% Activity Recovered	Fold Purification
40 gms FW	2 mg/ml	*0.027	100	1
33% AS-sup	2.5 mg/ml	*0.625	180	13
ConA	0.1 mg/ml	+0.81	12.5	240
FLAG	7.2 μg/ml	+0.84	N.D.	N.D.

\* Since 4MUGlc is not a specific substrate, this specific activity represents both plant glucosidase and hGC activity.

+ Plant glucosidase does not bind to ConA or anti-FLAG™ affinity columns (data not shown), therefore, this enzymatic activity is from hGC:FLAG™ alone.

#### 6.4. PRODUCTION OF hGC:FLAG™ PROTEIN FROM TOBACCO PLANTS

An estimation can be made on the amount of hGC:FLAG™ extracted per gm fresh weight of tobacco plant tissue or per mg soluble protein from slot blot western analysis of initial crude extracts using anti-FLAG™. Approximately 2 mg/ml of soluble protein were extracted per 0.5 gm of fresh weight plant tissue. Western slot blot analysis of 1 μl of crude extract indicates the presence of approximately 0.5 to 0.6 μg

of hGC:FLAG™ (FIG. 8). Based on these results, a single mature tobacco plant comprising about 1.6 kg of fresh weight of tissue will contain about 2.5 gm of hGC:FLAG™ per plant. Accordingly, a standard acre of tobacco planted to 6,000 plants could potentially produce 15 kg of hGC:FLAG™ (Table 3).

**TABLE 3. EXTRACTABLE hGC:FLAG™ PER ACRE OF TOBACCO**

70510x

	Tissue	Soluble Protein Total	Extractable hGC:FLAG™
10	*1 gm	4 - 5 mg	1.5 mg
	1.6 kg/plant	6 - 8 gm	2.4 gm
	6,000 PLANTS/ACRE (Standard field)		
15	9,600 kg	38 - 48 kg	14.4 kg

\* These estimations are based on slot blot westerns using anti-FLAG and crude extracts from 0.5 gm - 50 gm of post-wounded tissue.

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**7. EXAMPLE 2: PRODUCTION AND PURIFICATION OF IDUA IN TRANSGENIC TOBACCO PLANTS**

The subsections below describe the production of enzymatically active recombinant human  $\alpha$ -L-iduronidase (IDUA) in transgenic tobacco plants.

**7.1. CONSTRUCTION OF A PLANT TRANSFORMATION VECTOR CONTAINING AN IDUA EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT**

**7.1.1. IDUA EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT**

30 The first step in the construction of the desired plant transformation vector was to generate the human IDUA coding region with appropriate flanking restriction site to facilitate fusion to specific plant promoters and insertion into plant transformation vectors. A full-length human IDUA  
35 cDNA clone was provided by E. Neufeld (University of California, Los Angeles). In this clone, the IDUA cDNA

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sequence was inserted into the EcoRI site of pBS plasmid (Moskowitz et al., 1992, FASEB J. 6:A77; Murray, 1987, Methods in Enzymol. 149:25-42). This IDUA cDNA sequence has been expressed in animal cell lines (Moskowitz et al., 1992, 5 *supra*, 1987, *supra*) and shown to contained all the information necessary to produce enzymatically active IDUA (Murray, 1987, *supra*). The IDUA cDNA encodes a 653 amino acid protein (66 kDa) including the 26 amino-terminal signal peptide which is cleaved as it passes through the ER 10 membrane. To aid in the insertion of the IDUA cDNA into the plant vector, unique flanking XbaI and SacI sites were introduced by PCR using 5'-primer ID1 and 3'-primer ID2, *Pfu* polymerase (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA); as shown in Figure 12. The 1.9 kb fragment generated by PCR was purified by agarose 15 gel electrophoresis, digested with XbaI and SacI, and ligated into pBS and pSP64polyA (Gibco, a vector for *in vitro* transcription/translation). The PCR-amplified IDUA coding sequence was sequenced prior to insertion into the expression constructs. The nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequences 20 of the amplified IDUA coding sequence are shown in FIGS. 19 (SEQ ID NO:8) and 20 (SEQ ID NO:9), respectively. The PCR-amplified IDUA coding sequence differs from that originally published by E. Neufeld at positions 931 and 932. The PCR-amplified IDUA sequence has the dinucleotide CG instead of 25 the original GC at those positions. Accordingly, the deduced amino acid sequence of the PCR-amplified IDUA has a glutamate, instead of a glutamine, residue at position 282. *In vitro* transcription of the PCR-amplified IDUA sequence in a pSP64polyA:IDUA vector and rabbit reticulocyte 30 lysate-mediated *in vitro* translation of the resultant transcript produced protein having a molecular size expected for IDUA.

The PCR-amplified IDUA coding region was inserted downstream of two distinctly regulated plant promoters: 1) 35 the MeGA promoter and 2) the 35S<sup>ENH</sup> promoter. As discussed above, the MeGA promoter shows little or no expression in

most plant tissues but is strongly inducible resulting in significant transgene product accumulation 12 to 48 hours after induction of the MeGA promoter. The 35S<sup>ENH</sup> promoter is a widely used high-level constitutive promoter consisting of  
5 a modified CaMV 35S promoter containing double enhancer which is fused to a translational enhancer from the tobacco etch virus. See Cramer et al., 1996, "High-Level of Enzymatically Active Human Lysosomal Proteins in Transgenic Tobacco", Transgenic Plants: A production System for Industrial and  
10 Pharmaceutical Proteins, eds., Owens & Pen, John Wiley & Sons; Chrispeels, 1991, Annu. Rev. Plant Physiol. Plan. Biol. 42:21-53; and Haskins et al., 1979, Pediat. Res. 13:1294-1297. Each promoter was ligated as a HindIII-XbaI fragment upstream of the IDUA cDNA (see Figure 12).

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#### 7.1.2. IDUA EXPRESSION/TRANSFORMATION VECTORS

During the subcloning and vector analysis steps, bacterial transformants having any vector containing the 5'-end of the IDUA cDNA were recovered at lower than expected  
20 frequencies. For example, multiple ligation and transformations of competent *E. coli* cells DH5 $\alpha$  with pBS containing the 1.9 kb PCR amplified IDUA cDNA were required to generate fewer than 100 transformants. Among the 70 transformants analyzed by restriction analysis of the plasmid  
25 DNA, only 2 clones contained the proper sized 1.9 kb fragment. One of the two clones was sequenced and found to contain the complete IDUA coding sequence. Colony size of IDUA containing transformant was reduced. These reduced efficiencies were independent of plasmid vector, presence or  
30 absence of plant promoter, IDUA expression (not fused to a bacterially active promoter) or bacterial host. Independent subcloning of the 3'- versus 5'-end of the IDUA cDNA localized an "obnoxious" region to the 5'-end of the IDUA sequence. DNA secondary structure or the high GC content of  
35 this region may cause intolerance in heterologous organisms. This effect by the 5'-end of the IDUA cDNA has also been

noticed in yeast and animal cell expression systems. These limitations in transformation of the IDUA sequence, however, did not preclude successful isolation and characterization of the desired IDUA expression and transformation constructs.

5 For both promoter constructs, the promoter:IDUA cDNA fusions were excised as HindIII/SacI fragments and ligated into HindIII and SacI-digested pBIB-KAN (Figure 12). pBIB-Kan is a large (>13 kb) plant transformation vector that provides a terminator/polyadenylation signal (pAnos) for the  
10 introduced transgene, a selectable marker (NPTII or kanamycin resistance) for transformed plant cells, and T-DNA border sequences that demarcate the DNA to be transferred (Becker, 1990, Nucl. Acids Res. 18:203). The recombinant vectors were propagated in *E. coli* and fully characterized prior to  
15 transfer to *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. A pBIB-KAN vector containing the MeGA:IDUA expression construct used in T-DNA transformation of plants is pCT22.

## 20 7.2. GENERATION OF TRANSGENIC TOBACCO CONTAINING THE IDUA CONSTRUCTS

*Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation was used to stably integrate the 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA and MeGA:IDUA constructs into the genome of tobacco. Approximately 80 leaf discs were excised from aseptically grown *Nicotiana tabacum* cvs. *Xanthi*  
25 seedlings for each gene construct and inoculated with suspension cultures of *A. tumefaciens* strains containing the IDUA expression/transformation vectors. Following a 48 hour co-cultivation period, the leaf discs were transferred to selection media containing kanamycin and hormones that  
30 promote shoot formation. Although numerous shoots (4-10 per disc) generally appear 2-3 weeks after transfer to selection media, the IDUA-transformed shoots appeared late, i.e., after 3-5 weeks, and were few in number (0-1 per disc). Induction of root formation was also delayed in the IDUA-transformed  
35 shoots compared to shoots containing other transgene constructs. A final yield of seven 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA and ten MeGA:IDUA plantlets were transferred to soil. Once in soil,

all plants grew to maturity with normal morphology, flowering, and seed production. IDUA-expressing progenies showed slight retardation in early growth (FIG. 13B) but were indistinguishable in size and appearance from untransformed 5 plants at full maturity.

### 7.3. SOUTHERN CHARACTERIZATION OF TRANSGENIC PLANTS

Transgenic plants were initially selected based on kanamycin resistance. The stable insertion of the MeGA:IDUA 10 gene construct was confirmed by genomic Southern hybridization analysis. Total DNA was isolated from leaf tissue of nine transgenic plants and digested with HindIII, and analyzed by Southern hybridization using the IDUA cDNA as probe. The nine putative transformants analyzed showed one 15 to three copies of the IDUA insert and no indication of rearrangements or deletions. This transgene copy number is typical of transgenic tobacco engineered with other constructs via *Agrobacterium*.

### 20 7.4. CHARACTERIZATION OF IDUA EXPRESSION IN TRANSGENIC PLANTS

#### 7.4.1. IMMUNO-DETECTION OF IDUA PROTEIN IN PLANT EXTRACT

Antibodies made to the native and denatured IDUA from 25 CHO cells were obtained from E. Kakkis (Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA). By immuno-slot blot and SDS-PAGE Western analysis, the antibodies were found not to react with any proteins in untransformed or pBIB-Kan (transformed vector alone) transgenic tobacco tissue extracts from uninduced or 30 induced leaf tissue. When purified IDUA from CHO cells was seeded to untransformed tobacco extracts, there was no diminution in the level of IDUA detected as compared to that detected in extraction buffer containing the same concentration of purified IDUA. This finding indicates that 35 tobacco extract does not inhibit immuno-detection of IDUA.

Leaf tissues from seven independent transgenic plants were harvested, homogenized in 3X volume of extraction buffer (PBS with 0.1% Triton X100, 200  $\mu$ M PMSF, 1  $\mu$ M pepstatin, 4  $\mu$ M leupeptin) and the extracts cleared of cell debris by  
5 centrifugation at 12,000 X g for 30 min. Twenty-five  $\mu$ g of total soluble protein from each extract was heat-denatured and slotted onto OPTITRAN membrane (S&S). Purified IDUA protein in amounts ranging from 20 ng to 400 ng were added to the membrane to serve as comparison standards. Based on  
10 antibody detection using chemiluminescence, no immuno-reactive IDUA protein was found in the extracts of any of the 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA transgenic plants. This constitutive promoter also poorly expressed human protein C (<0.02% of soluble protein). Based on these findings, the 35S<sup>ENH</sup>:IDUA-containing  
15 plants were not analyzed further.

The MeGA promoter is inactive in tobacco leaves in the absence of induction. To obtain IDUA expression, leaves were harvested, induced by mechanical wounding and incubated at room temperature under high humidity (i.e., the wounded  
20 leaves are wrapped in moist filter paper in sealed bags or layered in a container with buffer gently swirled over the tissue) to allow *de novo* synthesis of the transgene product. In an initial screen of ten MeGA:IDUA-containing plants, tissue extracts were used for immunodot-blot analyses (see  
25 above). The extracts showed little or no IDUA content for all plants. Later analyses revealed that IDUA was secreted from the leaves and leached out onto the filter paper during the incubation step. This was somewhat surprising because recovery of extracellular proteins from intact leaf generally  
30 requires vacuum-induced buffer infiltration of the leaf (see Parent & Asselin, 1987, Can. J. Bot. 62:564-569; Regalado & Ricardo, 1996, Plant Physiol. 110:227-232). As described below, the expression procedure was subsequently modified to include a post-induction incubation step that involved gentle  
35 rotation of buffer over the wounded tissue, which permitted recovery of IDUA protein and activity in the incubation

buffer. Subsequent analyses were focused primarily on one plant, IDUA-9 also known as CT40-9, since preliminary tests show detectable levels of IDUA activity and anti-IDUA immuno-reactive material. IDUA-9 contains 3 copies of the 5 MeGA:IDUA construct.

#### 7.4.2. NORTHERN ANALYSIS SHOWS ACTIVATION OF THE MEGA:IDUA TRANSGENE

10 In order to demonstrate induction of the MeGA promoter and accumulation of IDUA mRNA, total RNA was isolated (Rutter, 1981, J. Biol. Chem. 91:468-478) from IDUA-9 leaves before and after induction. As shown in Figure 14A, IDUA mRNA of the expected size (approximately 2.2 kb) was detected at low basal levels in uninduced tissue and showed a marked 15 increase at 8 hrs post-induction and reached a maximum level at 27 hrs post-induction. This pattern is similar to transgene induction kinetics seen with other MeGA-driven constructs (e.g., hGC:FLAG™). The smaller hybridizing RNA species also accumulated after induction. Analogous lower 20 molecular weight RNAs have not been detected in hGC:FLAG™ expressing plants and may be unique to the IDUA-9 plant or a consequence of the IDUA sequence.

#### 7.4.3. WESTERN ANALYSIS OF HUMAN IDUA LOCALIZED TO TOBACCO

25 The induced IDUA-9 tissues were also used for protein extracts. Western blot analysis showed CHO-derived IDUA and IDUA from tobacco tissue migrated very similarly in SDS-PAGE (Figure 14B). The IDUA (92 kD) from IDUA-9 tobacco extract 30 migrated slightly faster than secreted IDUA from CHO cells. This presumably is due to differences in glycan composition. However, the similarity in size suggests that the tobacco produced recombinant IDUA was also glycosylated.

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**7.4.4. IDUA SYNTHESIZED IN TRANSGENIC TOBACCO IS  
SECRETED**

As discussed above, CHO cells secrete recombinant IDUA into the media. To determine if tobacco also secrete recombinant IDUA into the media, leaf tissue from transgenic IDUA-7, -8 and -9 plants were induced for 0 to 34 hrs and placed in a plastic petri dish with incubation buffer (PBS). At 0 hr, incubation buffer was used to wash the induced tissue and the wash stored frozen. Fresh buffer was added to the induced tissue and incubated at room temperature. At 8 hrs, the buffer was removed and frozen. Fresh buffer was added to the induced tissue and incubated further. The buffer was removed at 24 hrs post-induction. Fresh buffer was added to the induced tissue and further incubated. The final incubation buffer was removed 34 hrs post-induction and a tissue extract was prepared from the incubated leaf tissue. Fifty  $\mu$ l of each incubation buffer and tissue extract was boiled and slotted onto OPTITRAN membrane. A range of control IDUA protein from 0 to 40 ng was also blotted and IDUA was detected using anti-IDUA antibodies. As shown in Figure 15, IDUA protein was present in the incubation buffer following induction in all three transgenic tissue analyzed. This indicates that transgenic tobacco secrete IDUA after synthesis.

**7.4.5. THE TOBACCO-SYNTHESIZED IDUA IS  
ENZYMATICALLY ACTIVE**

One of the most critical factors in assessing the utility of plant-synthesized recombinant IDUA is whether the IDUA is enzymatically active. Enzyme activity of human lysosomal hydrolases requires appropriate glycosylation and folding and heterologous expression systems often result in endoplasmic reticulum-localized degradation or accumulation of insoluble and inactive aggregates. To determine whether the recombinant IDUA synthesized in transgenic leaves has enzymatic activity, a sensitive fluorometric assay using the substrate, 4-Methylumbelliferyl- $\alpha$ -L-iduronide (4-MUI)

(Calbiochem, LaJolla, CA) was used (see Neufeld, E.F., 1991, Ann. Rev. Biochem. 60:257-280). Untransformed tobacco extracts were shown to contain no endogenous IDUA activity. When CHO-derived recombinant IDUA was seeded into crude  
5 extracts of untransformed tobacco leaves, no detectable inhibition of activity was found. When the tissue extracts from IDUA-9 transgenic plant were assayed, the extracts showed IDUA activity at reproducible but at relatively low levels (0.2 to 0.4 nmole 4-MU/hr/gm tissue). This confirms  
10 that tobacco has all the necessary machinery to synthesize and process IDUA into an active form. Consistent with IDUA distribution shown by immuno-detection, significantly higher IDUA activities were detected in the secreted fraction as described below.

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#### 7.4.6. SECRETION AND RECOVERY OF TOBACCO-SYNTHEZIZED RECOMBINANT IDUA

Significant portion of the recombinant IDUA produced in transgenic tobacco was recovered in the incubation buffer  
20 following induction of the MeGA:IDUA gene construct (FIG. 15). Localization of the majority of active IDUA after induction and incubation was determined. This was done by comparing the IDUA activity and anti-IDUA immuno-reactivity of tissue extract with those of the incubation buffer. As  
25 shown in Figure 16, there was much higher levels of IDUA activity in the incubation buffer than in the tissue extract after induction and incubation. Moreover, the IDUA activity in the incubation buffer showed strong correlation with the the amount of anti-IDUA immuno-reactive material found in the  
30 incubation buffer, as reveal by the data presented in FIG. 15. Thus, IDUA-expressing transgenic tobacco secrete most of its active IDUA (about 67%) into the incubation buffer after induction and incubation.

Based on activity assays and Western analysis, the  
35 specific activity of secreted IDUA was estimated to be about 64 U/ $\mu$ g protein. In comparison, purified IDUA enzyme from

engineered CHO cells has a specific activity of about 242 U/ $\mu$ g protein.

Variation in transgene expression levels is very common in transgenic plants due to "positional" effects caused by the site of transgene insertion within the host genome. The IDUA activity levels in three independent IDUA-expressing transgenic plants (i.e., IDUA-7, IDUA-8 and IDUA-9) were examined. Among these transgenic plants, IDUA-9 has the highest IDUA activity (FIG. 17). The relative amount of active IDUA remaining in the cell, as reflected by the activity present in tissue extract, after 34 hrs of incubation ranged from 14% to 35% of the total activity (FIG. 17).

The above-identified three transgenic plants were identified in a screen of about fifty independently transformed plants. This is a relatively small scale screen. It is reasonable to expect that larger scale screenings of IDUA-engineered plants will yield plants that produce active IDUA at levels higher than those of the plants disclosed herein.

#### 7.4.7. PURIFICATION AND YIELD OF IDUA FROM TRANSGENIC TOBACCO

The yield of recombinant IDUA from IDUA-9 was estimated to be about 6  $\mu$ g/gm fresh tissue. This estimate was based on the material present in the incubation buffer after 34 hrs of incubation (see FIG. 18). However, neither the induction nor the IDUA recovery procedure used was optimized. Thus, it is likely that higher IDUA yields may be achieved through optimization of induction and recovery procedures. It should be noted that the transgenic tobacco plants yielded an average of greater than 1 kg fresh weight of leaf at maturity, and that leaves can be periodically harvested from greenhouse-grown plants for over an year. Accordingly, cultivation of transgenic tobacco plants either in the field of the greenhouse offers a convenient and effective means for producing large amounts of IDUA.

8. **EXAMPLE 3: PRODUCTION OF TRANSGENIC TOBACCO PLANTS CONTAINING AN UNMODIFIED hGC EXPRESSION CONSTRUCT**

A 3' end segment of the hGC coding sequence was PCR-amplified from the cDNA clone in *E. coli* ATCC65696 (see Section 6.1.1., *supra*) using as the 5' primer GC23 oligo, 5'GCCTATGCTGAGCACAAAGTTACAG3' (SEQ ID NO:11), whose 5' end corresponds to nucleotide 894 of the hGC:FLAG sequence shown in FIG. 9, and as the 3' primer GC37 oligo, whose complementary strand has the sequence 5'TTCCTTGAGCTCGTcaCTGGCGACGCCACAGGTA3' (SEQ ID NO:12), a SacI restriction site is shown with an underline and a stop codon that is in-frame to the amplified hGC coding sequence is shown in lower case. The site of the 5' primer in the hGC coding sequence is 5' upstream of a SalI restriction site. Accordingly, the amplified DNA was cut with SalI and SacI, and the SalI/SacI fragment containing the 3' end of hGC coding sequence was inserted into the pBS intermediate vector containing the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ expression construct (see FIG. 1 and Section 6.1.2., *supra*) which had been cut with SalI and SacI. Clones were identified that had replaced the 3' end of the MeGA:hGC:FLAG™ construct with the 3' end of hGC coding sequence yielding a MeGA:hGC expression construct. This construction eliminated the ten amino acid addition at the carboxyl terminal and corrected the amino acid substitution at residue 545 in the hGC:FLAG™ fusion, and thereby reconstructing an unmodified hGC coding sequence. The MeGA:hGC expression construct was excised from the pBS intermediate vector by SacI digestion and inserted into pBIB-KAN to form the transformation vector pCT54. A schematic of the construction of the pCT54 vector is shown in FIG. 21.

*Agrobacterium* containing pCT54 was used to transform plants and transgenic tobacco plants containing the MeGA:hGC expression construct were produced according to procedures described above. Transgenic tobacco plants containing the MeGA:hGC expression construct were identified and assigned the designations CT54-1 to -40. Analyses of hGC enzymatic activity and presence of hGC in the induced tissues of

transgenic plants are carried out using the enzymatic assay described in Section 6.2.5. and the Western blot analysis using anti-hGC antibodies described in Section 6.2.6.

Purification of the hGC produced in transgenic tobacco tissue  
5 is carried out using the procedure described in Section 6.3., except the anti-FLAG™ affinity chromatography step was omitted, which procedure is further modified accordingly to strategies and methods known in the art for purifying the hGC enzyme.

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9. DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS

The following biological materials have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) at 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD. 20852, in compliance with the  
15 requirements of the Budapest Treaty On The International Recognition Of The Deposit Of Microorganisms For The Purpose Of Patent Procedure, on the dates and were assigned the ATCC accession numbers indicated below.

70620x

	<u>Deposited Material</u>	<u>Deposit Date</u>	<u>Accession No.</u>
20	DNA of pCTPro1:hGC:FLAG	Sept. 14, 1995	97277
	seeds of tobacco plant hGC X-11	Sept. 14, 1995	97275
25	seeds of tobacco plant hGC X-27	Sept. 14, 1995	97276
	DNA of pCT22	Aug. 30, 1996	97701
	seeds of tobacco plant CT40-9	Aug. 30, 1996	97700
30	DNA of pCT54	Oct. 17, 1996	97770

The present invention is not to be limited in scope by the biological material deposited since the deposited  
embodiments are intended as illustrations of the individual  
aspects of the invention, and any biological material, or  
35 constructs which are functionally equivalent are within the scope of this invention. Indeed, various modifications of

the invention in addition to those shown and described herein will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description and accompanying drawings. Such modifications are intended to fall within the scope of the  
5 appended claims.

Various references are cited herein; these are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

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